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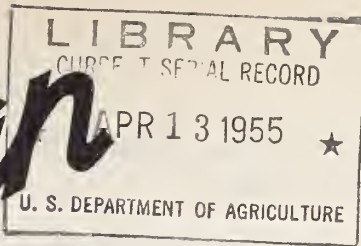
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Washington 25, D. C.

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# Foreign

# CROPS AND MARKETS

(FOR RELEASE MONDAY, MARCH 28, 1955)

VOLUME 70

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

## INDIA ENTERS INTERNATIONAL WALNUT TRADE

The 1954 production of the Persian variety of walnuts in India is estimated to be 11,000 short tons (in-shell basis). There is no estimate for the 1953 crop, but production in both years was reported excellent. The walnuts are grown in Kashmir, and harvested late in the calendar year.

Official export data have been shown since April 1953. Exports of both shelled and in-shell walnuts amounted to 84,956 bags (100 pounds each) from April through December 1953, and 93,288 bags for the first 11 months of 1954.

## FREEZE DAMAGE TO SPANISH ALMOND CROPS REPORTED

Preliminary reports from trade and agricultural sources in northeastern Spain indicate that significant damage may have occurred to the young fruit on almond trees in that part of the country because of unseasonal cold. During a 5-day period in early March, temperatures reportedly dropped below the freezing point. The full effects of the cold damage are still to be verified. The principal areas affected have been the Reus-Aragon region and the Balearic Islands, which together produce approximately half of Spain's almond crop. Flowering had been generally premature in these areas because of the mild winter.

Filbert production which is concentrated in northeastern Spain appears not to have suffered serious damage.

### FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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# LARGE SOUTHERN ITALIAN FILBERT CROP FORECAST

It is reported from the Naples-Avellino area, where approximately two-thirds of the Italian filberts are normally produced, that flowering has been good and fertilization excellent. The weather so far this season has been unusually mild. Though possible frost and April fogs are still to be feared, the present outlook for the new crop is very favorable, especially since the plants bore a light crop in 1954.

## SPANISH PICKLED OLIVE SHIPMENTS UP

Exports of Spanish pickled olives to North America have been substantially higher thus far this season than a year ago. For the period November 21, 1954 through February 1955, exports amounted to 11,155 short tons compared with shipments of 9,297 tons in the same period in 1953-54. After a slow start at the beginning of the season shipments picked up during February. About 90 percent of the exports to North America usually go to the United States.

## EGYPT ALLOCATES ONIONS FOR EXPORT

The Egyptian Ministry of Supply last week allocated 7,100,000 sacks (50 pounds each) of Egyptian onions for export during the early (major) crop season of 1955. No limit has been set for the export of dehydrated onions.

The new-crop onions began arriving at Alexandria and Port Said the last of February, which was earlier than expected. The onions were of good quality. Plans are being made to limit the quantities shipped to certain large consuming markets in Europe in the hope of obtaining higher prices.

Exports in previous seasons were as follows (in millions of 50-pound sacks): 1954, 7.5; 1953, 5.4; 1952, 4.0; and 1951, 3.7.

Official estimates of the 1955 onion crop are not available, but trade estimates range from 8.8 to 13.2 million sacks. This compares with 11 million sacks in 1954, and 13.2 million sacks (50-pounds) in 1953.

## ISRAEL BUYS MEAT FROM FRANCE

A purchasing mission for the Government of Israel has concluded a contract with a firm in Angers, in western France, for annual shipments of 3.3 million pounds of beef. Cattle will be Kosher-slaughtered and the carcasses delivered in refrigerated trucks at Saint-Nazaire for shipment to Israel.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL PRICES

Wool Prices: Average raw wool costs, clean basis,  
on Australian Auction floors, by quality  
classification

	70's		64's		60's		58's	56's	50's
	Super	Average	Super	Average	Super	Average	Good	Good	Good
	-----U. S. Dollars per Pound-----								
<u>1950-51</u>									
Sept.	2.62	2.48	2.43	2.27	2.01	1.95	1.83	1.56	1.30
Dec.	2.73	2.63	2.55	2.51	2.35	2.29	2.09	1.86	1.66
March	3.88	3.51	3.53	3.46	3.50	3.45	3.32	2.97	2.28
June	<u>1/</u> 2.40	2.17	<u>1/</u> 2.28	1.99	<u>1/</u> 2.14	<u>1/</u> 1.93	<u>1/</u> 1.79	<u>1/</u> 1.63	1.26
<u>1951-52</u>									
Sept.	1.33	1.22	1.17	1.08	1.06	.98	.91	.78	.60
Dec.	1.63	1.57	1.51	1.44	1.36	1.36	1.13	.94	.77
March	1.32	1.25	1.24	1.18	1.06	1.00	.91	.72	.57
June	1.59	1.53	1.47	1.40	1.24	1.17	1.07	.84	.68
<u>1952-53</u>									
Sept.	<u>1/</u> 1.59	<u>1/</u> 1.52	1.41	1.36	1.23	1.18	1.04	.89	.68
Dec.	<u>1/</u> 1.82	1.69	1.57	1.52	1.34	1.30	1.15	.96	.78
March	<u>1/</u> 1.91	1.80	1.67	1.60	1.43	1.32	1.22	.98	.82
June	<u>1/</u> 1.89	1.83	<u>1/</u> 1.78	<u>1/</u> 1.66	<u>1/</u> 1.52	<u>1/</u> 1.40	<u>1/</u> 1.26	<u>1/</u> .97	<u>1/</u> .85
<u>1953-54</u>									
Sept.	1.89	1.81	1.75	1.60	1.52	1.42	1.32	1.07	.89
Oct.	1.90	1.80	1.73	1.60	1.49	1.42	1.35	1.19	.97
Nov.	1.96	1.82	1.73	1.61	1.50	1.42	1.34	1.18	.97
Dec.	1.96	1.76	1.67	1.58	1.45	1.35	1.31	1.14	.93
Jan.	1.95	1.74	1.63	1.54	1.41	1.32	1.26	1.08	.92
Feb.	1.89	1.68	1.59	1.49	1.38	1.27	1.19	1.13	.89
March	1.82	1.64	1.55	1.49	1.35	1.24	1.19	1.04	.88
April	1.79	1.66	1.59	1.54	1.42	1.31	1.28	1.14	.96
May	1.82	1.69	1.62	1.58	1.48	1.38	1.34	1.22	1.02
June	1.87	1.74	1.67	1.62	1.55	1.43	1.35	1.25	1.04
<u>1954-55</u>									
Sept.	1.63	1.56	1.48	1.40	1.39	1.29	1.26	1.18	.98
Oct.	<u>1/</u> 1.62	1.53	1.45	1.36	<u>1/</u> 1.34	1.23	1.21	1.15	.99
Nov.	1.57	1.44	1.35	1.28	1.22	1.16	1.09	1.00	.90
Dec.	1.60	1.47	1.38	1.32	1.26	1.21	1.14	1.04	.90
Jan.	1.56	1.43	1.34	1.28	1.22	1.17	1.11	1.03	.90
Feb.	1.58	1.47	1.37	1.32	1.25	1.19	1.15	1.05	.93
March <u>2/</u>	1.56	1.46	1.35	1.31	1.24	1.19	1.16	1.06	.94

1/ Quotations nominal.

2/ Week ending March 4.

Source: Wool Statistical Service of the Australian Wool Bureau



BRAZILIAN  
DAIRY SITUATION

While milk cow numbers in Brazil are up, production of milk is handicapped by shortages of protein supplements and by-product milk feeds; it is estimated that milk production in 1954 may amount to more than 7 billion pounds, or approximately 125 pounds per person.

The demand for milk and dairy products is good, but the feed-stuff shortages, lack of processing facilities, inadequate transportation and low prices to farmers, tend to retard production increases.

The reportedly low prices to the farmer can be shown only by comparison, since the so-called free market rate of exchange varies considerably from day to day in comparison with the fixed official rate of 18.82 cruzieros to the United States dollar. The farmer selling his milk receives a blended price depending on its end-use. Milk going for fluid consumption brings, at the official rate of exchange, an equivalent of \$6.82 per cwt, while milk for manufacture brings \$3.66 per cwt. Butter is currently retailing at about \$1.51 a pound, on the basis of official exchange rates.

Exports of dairy products by the United States to Brazil have decreased to a trickle because of currency restrictions imposed by Brazil to save its hard currency exchange. In addition to high tariff rates on dairy products, Brazil also requires importers to pay premiums for exchange being used to purchase dairy items. Butter importers, for example, must pay a premium of more than 400 cruzieros to obtain one U. S. dollar. Only powdered milk for baby feeding is in a low category and yet importers of this commodity have been paying 74 cruzieros to the dollar.

Imports of dairy products will very likely continue small during 1955 because of the exchange situation and because of importer preferences for items with higher profit potentials.

PAKISTAN TO HAVE GOVERNMENT  
DAIRY FARM

Press reports from Pakistan report that the National Government of Pakistan has agreed to lend about \$750,000 to the Punjab Government for the establishment of a dairy farm to be owned and operated by the Provincial government. The amount borrowed from the National government will be duplicated by the Punjab authorities.

Press reports indicate that the Provincial government will not purchase or own the cattle, but will maintain the dairy farm and facilities for private owners. This would be somewhat similar to the type of operation being carried on in connection with the Bombay, India, Milk Scheme.

## BRITISH DAIRYMEN PLAN TO INCREASE MILK-FED VEAL PRODUCTION

The Milk Marketing Board of the United Kingdom has circularized dairy farmers through a coupon insert in the March issue of the Milk Producer, the Board's monthly magazine, regarding the diversion of milk to animal feeding during the flush months. The insert states that the Milk Marketing Board and the Fatstock Marketing Corporation have been having consultations on the desirability of producing as much milk-fed veal as possible this spring and summer.

The Board states, "There is obviously a good market in this country for milk-fed veal in this period when home-killed meat is in shortest supply. In the peak months of May and June, prices of milk to producers are low and supplies are heaviest. There is no doubt that the realization to the producer for milk used in the production of veal can be considerably better than the Board will realize for that milk in the form of butter and cheese in the flush season".

The offer of the Fatstock Marketing Corporation, in which milk producers registered with the Milk Marketing Boards may participate, is an offer to purchase from the beginning of April to the end of July all grade 1 milk-fed veal calves with a carcass weight of from 60 to 100 pounds for a minimum price of 3 shillings (about 42 cents) per pound dressed carcass. For calves in the 101 to 125 pound range the price per pound would be only 38.5 cents.

The Board states that the Fatstock Marketing Corporation will pay at these rates for only Grade 1 calves; other grades will be purchased at under the minimum rates. The Grade 1 classification on conformation calls for a compact carcass, plump and well finished throughout; the loins should be well fleshed and legs well developed and rounded, shins short, neck short and thick. Shoulders are to be deeply fleshed. As for finish, the grade demands a thin layer of fat covering the rump, back and shoulders; kidneys should be well covered. The inside of ribs should show an indication of fat which is white in color. The flesh must be firm and have the pinkish color the trade describes as "white".

During May and June 1954 milk returned about \$2.60 a hundredweight to producers. The Board suggests that each hundred pounds of milk-fed should result in about 9.5 pounds of veal, which would return milk producers almost \$4.00 per hundredweight for milk.

Farmers who were interested in the plan are given a coupon to return to the Fatstock Marketing Corporation stating their intention to participate in the scheme and stating the number of milk-fed veal calves they expect to market from April 1 to July 31, 1955.



#### IRON CURTAIN DAIRY IMPORTS UP IN 1954

The 1954 imports of dairy products by the U. S. S. R., East Germany and Czechoslovakia are about one-third larger than import receipts in 1953, according to estimates made by the Commonwealth Economic Committee. In 1953 the 3 countries had estimated butter imports of 105 million pounds, while during the past year imports totaled about 125 million pounds. Imports by the U. S. S. R. were about 72 million pounds in 1954 compared with over 91 million in 1953. The supplying countries during 1954 were New Zealand, Denmark, Sweden, Argentina and the Netherlands.

Total imports of cheese were estimated at 15.7 million pounds during 1954 compared with slightly under 12 million during 1953. Imports of cheese by the U. S. S. R. rose from about 4.4 million pounds to 6.7 million. The Netherlands and Denmark were the cheese-exporting countries.

Butter production in the Soviet Union during 1954 is claimed to have totaled just over 815 million pounds; this is more than 200 million pounds short of the original 1954 target.

#### DRY WEATHER REDUCES NEW ZEALAND MILK PRODUCTION

Continued dry weather since Christmas has caused a reported rapid downturn in milk production in New Zealand. From July through November milk production, as measured by total butterfat, was running ahead of the same period in 1953, but the continuing weather conditions since December makes it unlikely that total butterfat production for the 1954-55 season will be greater than the 590 million pounds registered in the year 1953-54. Cow numbers are somewhat higher than last year, but production per cow is down.

#### MOVEMENT OF WOOL FROM THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE

Exports of wool from the 5 major producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere declined by about 10 percent during the first half of the 1954-55 season as compared to a year earlier. Most of the decline occurred in exports from Australia, largely due to the November dock strike in that country. However, as in the previous season shipments from Argentina and Uruguay were small during the October-December period. In these two countries exporters experienced difficulty in fulfilling orders because growers considered offering prices too low.





Exports from Argentina are reported to have increased in pace following the recent temporary suspension of the export sales tax on wool (See Foreign Crops and Markets, March 14, 1955 ).

The Uruguayan wool trade optimistically believes that all but a "normal" carry-over of their wool will be shipped before the beginning of the new wool season, October 1, 1955. They point out that in recent years the bulk of clip has been sold and shipped during the last half of the wool year (April-September).

The Dominion wool prices have shown a firm to strong tendency in recent weeks which indicates that the Dominion supplies are moving into export channels in an orderly manner.

Prospects are that the firm tendency in world wool prices from current levels will continue through the 1954-55 wool year. Current world production and consumption are nearly in balance. Consumption during 1954 has been estimated at 2,530 million pounds clean basis about 3 percent below 1953 and less than 6 percent below the record level of 1950. Indications point towards some improvement in world wool consumption during 1955, while the 1954-55 world wool clip may not exceed 2,530 million pounds, clean basis, by more than 5 to 20 million pounds.

#### WEST GERMAN IMPORTS OF EGG AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Preliminary data on foreign trade during January-November 1954 report imports of eggs and poultry at the record level of 99.7 million dollars, and increase of 34 percent above 1953 according to John J. Haggerty, U. S. Agricultural Attache, HICOG, Bonn. Imports of poultry meat, fresh and processed eggs were higher than in any post-war year. The main suppliers continued to be the Netherlands (62 percent) and Denmark (14 percent) except for processed eggs, for which China remained the main source of supply. Imports of powdered eggs from the United States were negligible. Fresh eggs from Argentina and Australia entered the German market during 1954 and for the first time in the postwar period were of some significance.

At the beginning of 1955, the egg market experienced the customary seasonal low. An ample supply from foreign and domestic sources and seasonally decreased consumption further reduced prices, which may be expected to follow or fall lower than the 1954 level.

The favorable feed-egg price ratio in the Netherlands and Denmark in 1954 resulted in increases in laying hens. Laying rates likewise were increased so that available export supplies will be higher than ever before. Pressure from these sources on the German domestic market is to be expected, and requests for added protection may be renewed by the German producer interests.



## CUBAN EGG SITUATION AND OUTLOOK

Eggs for hatching and edible purposes constitute the principal poultry products imported by Cuba during 1954. Total imports during 1954 were approximately 7.5 million dozen eggs in comparison to 5.5 million dozen the previous year. All imports were from the United States. There is no record of the number of hatching eggs being imported, but it is estimated to have been about 10 percent of the total imports for the years 1953 and 1954.

The continued expansion of local feed-mixing plants and their demonstrated ability to supply a balanced feed has stimulated poultry production in Cuba. This is especially true adjacent to Havana, where the principal feed-mixing plants are located.

At times competition from eggs imported from the United States, at greatly reduced prices, has caused some of the marginal commercial producers in Cuba to discontinue production, but the majority have expanded production with greatly reduced profits. The ceiling price for eggs continues at 5 cents each, which is what most of the commercial producers are receiving through their own outlets for fresh eggs.

Duty-free entry of eggs from the United States was discontinued January 15 with the expiration of Decree No. 1825 of June 24, 1954 according to Guy L. Bush, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Havana. Eggs entering Cuba for edible purposes now pay a duty of 20 cents per dozen. Unselected criollo eggs are currently selling from 13.25 to 13.75 dollars per case of 30 dozen.

With the application of the duty the number of eggs entering Cuba has been materially reduced with importations chiefly confined to eggs for a selected clientele. Ordinarily the duty on eggs is allowed to apply during the dry season when domestic production is most abundant. Under the circumstances it is anticipated that duties may again be relaxed some time during mid-year. Should the price of United States eggs be low enough to threaten the more efficient commercial producers at that time, it can be expected that efforts will be made to prevent the usual mid-year easement of the tariff.

## THAILAND RICE EXPORTS REDUCED

Exports of milled rice from Thailand during 1954 totaled 1,004,000 metric tons (1 metric ton = 2,204.6 pounds), a marked decline compared with 1,336,000 tons in the preceding year, and with 1,556,000 tons in 1951, the postwar peak for Thailand's rice exports. The major destination was Japan which accounted for one-third of the total.

Rice exports to the United Kingdom and British territories represented 49 percent of the total, with the largest quantities to Singapore, Malaya, Hong Kong, and other territories, respectively. Other important destinations were Indonesia and the Philippines.

## THAILAND: Rice exports, by country of destination, 1954

Country of destination	Edible			Inedible <sup>1/</sup>	Total all types
	Government	Commercial	Total		
	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons
Japan.....	267,453	66,000	333,453	116	333,569
Singapore.....	20,000	<sup>2/</sup> 161,493	181,493	73,563	255,056
Malaya.....	115,000	16,809	131,809	12,588	144,397
Hong Kong.....	53,930	<sup>3/</sup> 61,945	115,875	17,072	132,947
Other British Terr. <sup>4/</sup> ..	61,352	4,300	65,652	0	65,652
Total British Terr....	(250,282)	(244,547)	(494,829)	(103,223)	(598,052)
Europe..... <sup>5/</sup>	32,175	27,812	59,987	<sup>6/</sup> 67,546	127,533
Indonesia.....	56,532	1,300	57,832	0	57,832
Philippines.....	5,000	10,500	15,500	0	15,500
Middle East.....	0	14,832	14,832	0	14,832
Macao.....	0	12,383	12,383	1,730	14,113
Africa.....	0	6,135	6,135	0	6,135
Okinawa.....	0	4,050	4,050	0	4,050
India.....	0	<sup>7/</sup> 3,300	3,300	0	3,300
Laos.....	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000
Canada.....	0	23	23	0	23
United Kingdom.....	-	-	-	5,825	5,825
Total.....	613,442	390,882	1,004,324	178,440	1,182,764

<sup>1/</sup> So-called "rice flour", consisting principally of coarse ground broken, mostly old crop, infested stocks, apparently for animal feed or industrial uses.

<sup>2/</sup> Includes 119,541 tons "in transit". <sup>3/</sup> Includes 42,153 tons "in transit".

<sup>4/</sup> Includes Sarawak, North Borneo, New Guinea, Mauritius, Seychelles, Aden, Jamaica, Bahamas, and Fiji Islands. <sup>5/</sup> Includes 31,675 tons to Netherlands.

<sup>6/</sup> Continental Europe. <sup>7/</sup> Shipped by UNICEF.

Compiled from unofficial sources.

In addition to exports of milled rice, exports of old-crop, deteriorated inedible rice amounted to 178,000 metric tons. While this quantity consists of coarse ground broken, mostly old-crop and infested stock rice, and cannot be classed as milled rice, edible, nevertheless it represents a disposal of an important quantity of burdensome old-crop rice stocks. This means that stocks for export at the beginning of 1955 are considerably improved with respect to quality as compared with those of other postwar years.

Average quotations for various kinds of rice sold through commercial channels are shown in the following table. Quantities of each grade shipped include Government-to-Government shipments as well as commercial exports.



THAILAND: Rice exports by type, and  
average commercial prices, f.o.b. Bangkok

Grade	Exports		Average commercial	
	(Government and commercial)		price 1/	
		Percent		
	Metric tons	of total	Dollars per metric ton	Dollars per 100 pounds
White rice 100%.....	19,214:	2	188	8.53
" " 5 and 10%.....	324,529:	27	168	7.62
" " 15% .....	241,571:	20	160	7.26
All other white rice.....	79,627:	7	137	6.21
A.1 broken.....	200,084:	17	104	4.72
C.1 " .....	36,693:	3	81	3.67
C.3 " .....	6,360:	1	57	2.59
Glutinous rice.....	59,155:	5	160	7.26
Glutinous broken.....	22,116:	2	81	3.67
Parboiled rice.....	4,479:	-	109	4.94
Infested rice.....	10,496:	1	50	2.27
"Rice flour 2/" .....	178,440:	15	50	2.27
Total.....	1,182,764:	100	-	-

1/ Obtained by averaging highest prices quoted in January with lowest prices quoted in December. 2/ Consists principally of coarse ground broken rice, mostly old crop, infested stocks for animal feeds or industrial uses.

Compiled from unofficial sources.

#### ITALIAN SUGAR SITUATION

It is expected that sugar production in Italy in 1955 will exceed that of 1954 by around 5 percent, judging from the demand for seed. It is too early in the year to form an accurate judgement as to the area which will be planted, although it will certainly be larger than last year.

Increased plantings have been made in response to the ever-expanding demands for sugar by domestic consumers. According to informed spokesmen, production and consumption are practically at an equilibrium, with slight annual deficits made up by imports of minor quantities of refined and raw sugar, most of which comes from the United Kingdom.

It is not known how long Italy will be able to maintain its equilibrium position. It appears that consumption is somewhat curtailed by the relatively heavy 92 lire/kilogram manufacturing tax applied to sugar and that if this tax were reduced or abolished, consumption would outstrip domestic supplies with the difference being met by increased imports. Since the price structure will remain unchanged during 1955, production is likely to match demand without reducing stocks or requiring more than usual imports.



One new beet-crushing mill will be put into operation this year in the Metaponto region of southern Italy. Two others are planned, one of which will be located near Catania, Sicily. The other is to be near Crotone, Calabria. Both of the projected plants will be financed in part by the Development Fund for the South (Cassa per il Mezzogiorno).

Of the 69 operating mills in Italy, a number need rehabilitation. Some of the machinery can be fabricated in Italy, but other parts, such as centrifuges, are more difficult to obtain. Efforts to secure these items from United States manufacturers have met with little success, it was learned, because local manufacturers have apparently been able to prevent specialized imports from competing on the Italian market. Some German equipment has come in, but in such small volume that only about one mill per year has been reequipped. An official of the National Sugar, Alcohol and Yeast Producers Association said the centrifuge situation will become serious for many of the plants unless there is early liberalization of United States imports of this machinery.

The production of alcohol as a by-product of sugar refining has fallen to a low ebb. Reportedly only 6 of 30 distilleries are operating during the year, and even this limited number work only 3 weeks or so. The lack of demand for sugar-produced alcohol is said to be due to low-cost imports of alcohol shipped from France and the Netherlands. OEEC trade liberalization has made possible these imports which, in turn, have caused the sharp curtailment of Italian production. The Sugar Producers Association is hopeful that it can obtain direct supervision of alcohol imports so that the local producers will be "protected." If this occurs, it is reasonable to suppose that the cost of alcohol to Italian consumers will suffer a sharp increase.

Italy: Sugar supply and distribution,  
estimated 1954 and forecast 1955.  
(Short tons, raw value)

	1954	1955 (forecast)
Stocks (Jan. 1)	560,960	433,204
Production	815,702	859,794
Net Imports	26,566	27,577
Total Supply	1,292,998	1,320,555
Net Exports <sup>1/</sup>	Nil	Nil
Consumption	859,794	881,840
Stocks (Dec. 31)	433,204	438,715

<sup>1/</sup> Not net exports. Re-exports calculated in net imports figures.

## INDONESIAN KAPOK SUPPLY FOR EXPORT DECREASES

The supply of kapok for export from Indonesia this season is estimated at about 8.6 million pounds compared with exports of 10.5 million pounds in the calendar year 1953 and 11.0 million in 1952. The United States, Netherlands, New Zealand, and Australia furnish the most important market for this crop.

Production of kapok in the season beginning September 1954 is estimated by a reliable trade source at 13.9 million pounds. With a carry-over of approximately 0.3 million the total supply would be 14.2 million pounds. Estimating domestic consumption at 5.6 million pounds leaves 8.6 million available for export. Exports of kopok totaled 4.7 million pounds in the 4 months, October 1954 through January 1955, and about 3.9 million are believed to still be available for export.

Consumption of kapok in Indonesia varies considerably according to kapok prices, average income, and supply of material available for mattresses, pillows, cushions, and other articles for which kapok is used. The quality used domestically includes large quantities of "Off Kapok" or that of a lower grade than the average Java Kapok. This grade is prohibited for export. The supply of material this year is expected to be a large factor in determining the quantity of kapok consumed locally.

There is reported to be a relatively small supply of mattress and cushion materials on hand, and imports of such materials have been suspended for some time. However, there seems to be a rather large stock of the lower grade of kapok in the hands of dealers, which they are anxious to dispose of in some manner.

Production of kapok in Indonesia has been increasing under the encouragement of the People's Agricultural Service (Extension Service) and various kapok associations. Free seeds were furnished for planting. Kapok trees before the war were estimated at 625,000 on estates and 12,500,000 on small-holder farms, and exports of kapok in 1936-41 averaged 47.6 million pounds annually. Exports in 1946-50 averaged only 11.5 million pounds, and in 1951 and 1952 they were not much greater at 11.7 and 11.6 million pounds, respectively.

Most of the production of kapok is by small holders. As of June 1953 an estimate of 3.4 million trees were on these small farms. New trees have been planted continually. Since most of the existing trees are in the early bearing stage, and acreages are being expanded, it is reasonable to believe that with favorable weather and prices the output of kapok can be increased in future years.

The minimum export price is currently less than foreign prices, as shown in the following table:



Kapok: Indonesian minimum prices compared with prices abroad.

Importing area	:Currency:	Price permitted by the Indonesian Export Control		: Prices abroad, as of late February
		Sourabaya	Semarang	
Europe	Nfl	370,-cif.	360,-cif.	395,-c. & f. per kilo
United States	\$	0.46 c. & f.	0.45 c. & f.	0.49 c. & f. per lb.
Australia and New Zealand	Sh.	3/9	3/6	4/- cif. per lb.

#### CANADA ANNOUNCES INTENDED GRAIN ACREAGE

A moderate increase in Canada's grain acreage in 1955 over 1954 is expected on the basis of farmers' intentions on March 1, as reported by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on March 16. This is an early report on intentions to plant, such reports in Canada having been released in mid-May in previous years. The report emphasizes that intended acreages are merely indicative of growers' early-season plans and that acreage actually seeded may vary considerably from those intentions, depending on conditions before and during seeding time.

On the basis of the report, substantial increases are planned for oats and barley, with much smaller expansion planned in mixed grains and spring rye. The total increases more than offset the planned decline of about 600,000 acres in spring wheat and the smaller acreage under fall wheat and rye. The net increase in grain acreage, however, is offset by a prospective decrease of 2.4 million acres in land for summerfallow in the Prairie Provinces.

The increased emphasis on feedgrains is attributed to a number of factors, among which are current price relationships and marketing quota arrangements in the Prairie Provinces. Some significant shifts from wheat to coarse grains are also noted in districts where wheat rust was heaviest in 1954, especially in Saskatchewan.

The decline indicated for spring wheat acreage is planned for Saskatchewan where a decline of about 800,000 acres offsets small increases planned in Manitoba and Alberta. This would be the third consecutive year of reduced wheat acreage in Canada. In addition to planned reduction in spring wheat acreage, winter wheat acreage is 10 percent below the 1954 figure.

Barley acreage will reach a record 9.8 million acres, if farmers' intentions are realized. That would be an increase of about 2 million acres, or 25 percent, compared with the 1954 area. The largest increase is planned for Saskatchewan, where current intentions call for a 56 percent increase over the 1954 acreage. A substantial increase is also planned in Alberta.



Area under oats for grain is expected to be 10 percent above the 1954 level. This would be about the same as the average of the past 5 years. Increases are expected in all major producing areas except Quebec, where no change is planned.

Land under summerfallow will be 2.4 million acres less than in 1954, according to preliminary plans. This sharp decline from the record level of 1954 brings land in such use back to the 1953 level. The abnormally large figure in 1954 was a result of adverse weather conditions, which prevented growers from carrying out their original seeding plans last spring.

CANADA: Intended acreage of grain crops and summerfallow  
1955 with comparisons

Crop	Seeded area of grain			Intended area	
	1952	1953	1954	1955	As percent of 1954
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Winter wheat 1/.....	650:	732:	710:	639:	90.0
Spring wheat.....	25,345:	24,781:	23,557:	22,954:	97.4
Total.....	25,995:	25,513:	24,267:	23,593:	97.2
Oats for grain.....	11,062:	9,830:	10,161:	11,177:	110.0
Barley.....	8,477:	8,911:	7,856:	9,815:	124.9
Fall rye 1/.....	773:	1,031:	672:	568:	84.4
Spring rye.....	501:	463:	178:	222:	124.7
Total.....	1,274:	1,494:	850:	790:	92.9
Mixed grains.....	1,570:	1,445:	1,633:	1,662:	101.8
Summerfallow 2/.....	21,245:	22,764:	25,253:	22,845:	90.5

1/ Seeded in the fall of the preceding year.

2/ Prairie Provinces only.

From reports of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Conditions appear generally favorable though in many parts of the country a smaller-than-usual amount of fall cultivation was done and additional time will be required to complete this work before seeding begins. Throughout much of Western Canada and parts of Eastern Canada moisture reserves are abnormally high and, while this condition is desirable from the standpoint of plant requirements, it could well prevent realization of current acreage intentions unless weather conditions during the seeding season are unusually favorable.

NOTES ON COSTA RICA'S  
1954-55 COFFEE CROP

According to the most recent official report from the Costa Rican Oficina del Cafe, the volume of the current (1954-55) coffee crop has already exceeded that of the 1952-53 crop which, until now, was the largest in the history of the country.

As of February 28th, the amount of coffee received at the processing plants was 545,473 bags 1/. This compares with 543,625 bags 1/ produced in the record-breaking crop year 1952-53. Since the above date, 2,268 additional bags of coffee have been received, indicating that final figures for the present crop will be in excess of 548,096 bags 1/.

The average price received for the 1952-53 crop was US\$55.82 per cwt which netted the country US\$34.7 millions. Although the most recent sales (for export) have been consummated at prices of US\$60 per cwt, and slightly higher, the average export price received as of February 28, 1955 was US\$68.27 per cwt. for the total 280,293 bags 1/ that had been sold as of that date. Assuming an average price not exceeding US\$60 per cwt. for the remaining unsold balance (approximately 40 per cent), Costa Rica should realize the highest dollar revenue from the present coffee crop ever attained.

WORLD OUTPUT OF DAIRY PRODUCTS,  
FOURTH QUARTER AND ANNUAL, 1954

Fourth Quarter:

Over-all factory production of dairy products decreased in the fourth quarter of 1954, compared with the same quarter of 1953. Butter output showed practically no change from the earlier year, but cheese, canned milk and dried milk were below the 1953 level.

Conditions in Australia in the final quarter of 1954 were favorable for milk production. Exceptionally cold weather in most parts of Western Europe, following the poor 1954 harvest, kept milk production below last year's level. In Canada, weather conditions were unusually variable, and milk production showed only a slight increase. Mild weather in the United States resulted in somewhat higher milk production in the quarter.

Butter production in the October-December quarter of 1954 was approximately the same as in the corresponding quarter of 1953. Output was up in Australia and New Zealand. Norway and Canada maintained production at the 1953 level. All other countries reported lower production in this period.

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1/ 132.276 pounds each.



FACTORY DAIRY PRODUCTS: Output in principal producing and exporting countries,  
4th Quarter (calendar) 1954, with comparisons

Country and Product	Average 1954-58 1,000 pounds	Average 1946-50 1,000 pounds	Total 1953 1,000 pounds	Total 1954 1,000 pounds	1954				4th Quarter 1954/55 Percent
					1st Quarter 1,000 pounds	2nd Quarter 1,000 pounds	3rd Quarter 1,000 pounds	4th Quarter 1,000 pounds	
<b>BUTTER</b>									
Canada	1/ 254,774	277,868	2/ 302,783	312,854	2/ 35,425	2/ 104,228	2/ 117,827	55,374	100
United States	1,673,328	1,301,830	2/ 1,411,814	1,449,180	2/ 378,575	2/ 467,330	2/ 331,640	271,635	93
Belgium	46,179	55,353	3/ 90,609	3/	15,879	29,677			
Denmark	400,660	318,697	381,175	398,091	84,656	120,150	2/ 108,908	82,290	97
Finland	61,287	61,215	106,352						
France 5/	529,000	390,471	6/ 606,000	6/ 650,000					
Germany, Western	7/ 560,000	492,188	634,728	673,775	148,616	194,492	186,663	144,004	99
Ireland	89,400	68,648	78,774	88,005	4,886	30,707	38,042	14,370	95
Netherlands	201,000	155,620	182,984	179,288	26,409	52,714	57,719	42,446	83
Norway	24,790	20,049	27,908	22,884	4,153	9,002	6,887	2,842	100
Sweden	152,769	216,442	215,814	204,094	41,307	60,942	62,949	38,896	92
Switzerland 5/	57,760	36,949	52,469	65,036	15,488	20,209	16,909	10,148	95
United Kingdom	44,200	23,529	34,272	51,520	11,021	21,146	13,709	5,644	65
Argentina	65,742	100,657	127,869						
Union of So. Africa	10/ 27,725	44,845	68,151		23,421	2/ 16,447			
Australia	8/ 415,250	354,371	350,178	393,705	107,372	57,985	76,474	6/ 151,874	122
New Zealand - Total 8/	366,912	346,095	430,682	407,501	111,104	37,878	80,954	177,565	106
Export Gradiings	11/ 322,796	301,826	363,708	330,511	91,143	23,636	61,994	153,738	101
<b>CHEESE</b>									
Canada	1/ 119,924	114,329	2/ 76,744	84,436	2/ 7,040	2/ 27,968	2/ 34,798	14,630	108
United States	643,234	1,156,005	2/ 1,344,836	1,353,500	2/ 322,000	2/ 445,340	2/ 328,570	257,590	95
Denmark	68,820	123,634	192,021	178,350	34,172	59,524	51,588	33,066	99
France 12/	584,000	424,070	6/ 640,000	6/ 721,000					
Italy 12/	523,513	491,326	6/ 721,000	6/ 721,000					
Netherlands	200,000	176,926	2/ 291,663	306,844	44,004	94,514	100,362	67,964	111
Norway 14/	39,067	35,564	61,298	68,148	12,930	23,665	19,465	12,128	154
Sweden	76,059	115,005	119,714	121,845	23,400	41,469	37,539	19,437	103
Switzerland	111,729	107,232	2/ 130,954	121,253	16,034	32,935	40,615	22,308	96
United Kingdom 5/	109,000	69,888	2/ 196,896	182,672	53,178	64,333	52,685	12,476	31
Argentina	67,873	203,830	242,506						
Union of So. Africa	10/ 10,195	17,967	24,344		7,991	2/ 5,794			
Australia	8/ 48,400	98,396	106,707	109,268	26,437	11,874	25,948	6/ 45,009	94
New Zealand - Total 8/	210,911	216,842	239,971	246,198	71,456	22,938	39,558	112,246	112
Export Gradiings	11/ 204,110	205,962	231,912	228,300	74,675	30,296	23,347	99,982	104



## CANNED MILK

Canada <sup>15/</sup>	104,335	266,532	305,297	308,493	54,957	2/	48,864	2/	110,310	2/	95,518	53,801	98
United States <sup>16/</sup>	1,970,189	3,170,576	2,595,215	2,564,210	480,025	2/	522,225	2/	872,770	2/	698,950	470,265	98
Cuba	32,564	36,655	63,798	—	15,876	—	7,686	—	11,340	—	—	—	—
Denmark	40,785	58,701	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
France	28,953	57,984	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Netherlands	309,952	181,222	2/ 506,093	6/ 506,084	2/ 150,326	2/	86,258	2/	133,211	2/	132,364	6/ 154,251	103
Switzerland	14,198	13,091	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
United Kingdom	378,560	219,914	2/ 305,344	—	20,967	—	15,412	—	122,752	—	46,234	—	—
Argentina	3,159	11,914	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Australia	41,894	132,745	2/ 138,921	6/ 122,014	2/ 62,744	2/	31,558	2/	14,988	2/	22,301	6/ 53,167	85
New Zealand	11,273	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

DRIED MILK <sup>20/</sup>

Canada	26,079	70,876	2/ 99,928	100,259	18,693	2/	14,703	2/	34,908	2/	33,887	16,761	90
United States	202,555	913,436	1,317,347	1,379,025	256,734	—	366,220	—	492,335	—	284,230	236,240	92
Belgium	5,500	6,607	34,622	—	4,745	—	5,283	—	11,697	—	—	—	—
Denmark	2,205	16,866	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
France	7,685	3,308	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Netherlands	56,438	54,468	2/ 129,707	6/ 137,293	2/ 23,866	2/	9,099	2/	49,041	2/	54,552	6/ 24,601	103
Sweden	1,351	24,566	25,496	—	3,693	—	4,071	—	9,665	—	8,503	—	—
Switzerland	7,187	10,847	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
United Kingdom	43,098	73,848	2/ 95,424	—	17,382	—	22,848	—	48,832	2/	24,818	—	—
Argentina	3,977	14,070	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Australia	16,971	54,235	2/ 85,999	2/ 84,225	2/ 34,681	2/	23,648	2/	8,697	2/	17,109	6/ 34,831	100
New Zealand	17,429	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

<sup>1/</sup> Average 1935-39. <sup>2/</sup> Revised. <sup>3/</sup> Total production in 1953 is estimated at 192,902,000 pounds, and in 1954 at 194,000,000 pounds. <sup>4/</sup> Average 1948-50. <sup>5/</sup> Total production. <sup>6/</sup> Estimated. <sup>7/</sup> Average 1935-38. <sup>8/</sup> Production year ending June 30. <sup>9/</sup> Annual production figures more complete than monthly figures used in quarterly data. <sup>10/</sup> Production year ending August 31. <sup>11/</sup> Marketing year ending July 31. <sup>12/</sup> Total cheese, and includes cheese made from the milk of sheep and goats. <sup>13/</sup> For 1948. <sup>14/</sup> Total cheese, and includes cheese made from the milk of goats. <sup>15/</sup> Both bulk and case goods. <sup>16/</sup> Evaporated whole and condensed whole case goods only. (Estimates of production of bulk types discontinued). <sup>17/</sup> Less than a 5-year average. <sup>18/</sup> For 1937. <sup>19/</sup> For 1939. <sup>20/</sup> Total dried whole milk and dried skim milk for human consumption. <sup>21/</sup> For 1938.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U.S. representatives abroad and other information. March 28, 1955.

Cheese output declined 4 percent in the fourth quarter of 1954 compared with the same period a year earlier. Substantial gains were reported in New Zealand, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Canada, but decreased production was reported in Australia, Denmark, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Canned milk production in the final quarter was 2 percent below comparable 1953. Production declined in all reporting countries with the exception of the Netherlands.

Dried milk output in the fourth quarter dropped 6 percent below the 1953 level. Production was up in the Netherlands, but down in Canada and the United States. Little change in output occurred in Australia.

Prospects are favorable for dairy production in Australia, but in New Zealand, due to inadequate rainfall, the outlook is less favorable. Wintry weather continued into the new year in the United Kingdom, resulting in lower milk production than a year ago. Milk production in Canada is expected to be slightly higher, reflecting a small rise in cow numbers.

Annual: The year 1954 as a whole was favorable for the production of dairy products, over-all output of which was above that of 1953. An increase in cow numbers in almost all of the major producing countries, and in some, higher yields, resulted in higher milk production than in the preceding year, much of which was available for manufacturing.--  
By Regina M. Murray, based in part upon reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad.

#### BRITISH MEAT SUBSIDIES TOTAL \$161 MILLION A YEAR

Subsidies paid to livestock producers and Government losses on purchases of meat by the British Ministry of Food during the year ending March 31, 1954, were equivalent to \$161 million and total food subsidies were equivalent to \$935 million, according to a report of the Auditor General. These subsidies reduce the cost of living to the people of the United Kingdom at the same time that producers' prices are held at desirable levels.

Subsidies paid on home produced meat and livestock were equivalent to \$139 million but this was offset in part by a profit on imported meat amounting to \$21 million. It is reported that the subsidy on meat averaged about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound. The total subsidy on home produced bacon was equivalent to \$70 million during the year, but profits realized on imported bacon amounted to \$26 million so that the net loss was \$44 million. The subsidy on bacon averaged slightly more than 4 cents per pound.

Meat and Food Subsidies Paid by the  
British Ministry of Food During the  
Year Ended March 31, 1954

<u>Item</u>		<u>Equivalent in millions of dollars</u>
Total food subsidies		935.2
Subsidies on home produced meat and livestock	138.6	
Profit on imported meat	<u>21.3</u>	
Net subsidy		117.3
Subsidy on home produced bacon	70.0	
Profit on imported bacon	<u>26.0</u>	
Net subsidy		44.0

PAKISTAN ALLOCATED \$3 MILLION FOR  
TOBACCO UNDER PUBLIC LAW 480

The Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture announced on March 11, that an agreement has been reached with the Government of Pakistan for the sale of 3 million dollars worth of U. S. tobacco. This is part of an overall agreement under which 29.4 million dollars worth of surplus United States agricultural commodities will be sold for rupees under Title I of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (Public Law 480, 83rd Congress). Sales under this program will be handled by private U. S. exporters and procurement authorizations are expected to be issued soon.

The 3 million dollars allocated for tobacco in this agreement are expected to result in the sale of about 3.6 million pounds of tobacco and will be in addition to usual purchases for dollars. Exports of United States leaf to Pakistan averaged about 1.5 million pounds per year during the period 1950-53.

Tobacco purchased under this program will enable the fast-growing Pakistan cigarette industry to maintain the percentage of U. S. leaf used in high-quality cigarettes and to build up sufficient stocks to assure efficient plant operations. This is especially important in view of the rapid expansion of the Pakistan cigarette industry which has increased from an output of 2.2 billion cigarettes in 1949 to 4.0 billion in 1953.

Other commodities that will move under the Pakistan program include cotton, ghee and linseed oil.



## TOBACCO FOR HARVEST, FIRST HALF, CALENDAR YEAR 1955

The production of leaf tobacco for harvest in the first half of calendar year 1955, chiefly in the southern hemisphere, is forecast at 2,133 million pounds, about the same as the 1954 output, but about 19 percent above the 1947-51 average.

Only the production for harvest in the first half of calendar year 1955 is included in this forecast. In several countries tobacco is harvested in both 6-month periods of the year. Production in such countries is included in this forecast if most of the crop is harvested in the first half of the year 1/.

The largest decreases in production as compared to 1954 are reported in Brazil, Southern Rhodesia, India, Indochina, Venezuela, and Nigeria. However, the decreases were offset almost entirely by increases in Indonesia, Philippine Islands, Dominican Republic, Thailand, Pakistan, Union of South Africa, Mexico, and Taiwan. Total flue-cured tobacco production is expected to be slightly above the 1954 level, primarily as a result of increases in most of the countries in Asia, but will be down considerably in Southern Rhodesia and India. Total output of dark air-cured tobacco is down from last year as a result of a sharp decline in Brazilian cigar leaf.

North America, Including the Caribbean Area

Forecasts of production of tobacco for harvest in the first half of calendar year 1955 in the North American countries are for 275.1 million pounds. This is 4.4 percent above 1954, and is almost 9 percent above average output in the 1947-51 period. A large increase as compared to 1954 is forecast for the Dominican Republic with Mexico, El Salvador, and Guatemala also expecting increases. A smaller crop is expected in Puerto Rico.

South America

Production in South America for harvest in the first half of the calendar year is forecast at 442.6 million pounds, a decline of almost 21 million pounds, or 4.5 percent as compared to 1954 but about 16 percent above the 1947-51 average.

The forecast for Brazilian Bahia cigar tobacco is placed at 16.5 million pounds as a result of severe drought conditions in the early part of the season. This is only one-fourth of the output from this area in 1954. Production could be considerably larger than forecast if weather conditions should improve. Flue-cured production in Brazil is expected to be almost 10 percent above the 1954 crop and other dark air-cured tobacco used principally for cigarettes is expected to be one-third above last year.

Indications are that the 1955 harvest in Venezuela and Argentina will be below output in 1954, while production in Paraguay should be above last year, when unfavorable weather, insects, and diseases sharply reduced the crop.

1/ Included in this category are Colombia, Madagascar, Ceylon, Pakistan, Indonesia, and Thailand.

Africa

Leaf tobacco for harvest in Africa in the first half of calendar year 1955 is forecast at 233.9 million pounds, 5.2 percent below the 1954 harvest, but almost 12.3 percent above the 1947-51 average output. Flue-cured production in Southern Rhodesia is forecast at 109.7 million pounds, a decrease of more than 10.5 million pounds, or 8.8 percent as compared to 1954. The dark air-cured crop in Nigeria and fire-cured crop in Nyasaland are expected to be lower than in 1954, while in the Union of South Africa the crop is forecast at 3.2 million pounds above the 1954 harvest.

Asia

Production in Asia for harvest in the first half of 1955 is estimated at 1,169 million pounds, 21.5 million pounds, or almost 2 percent above the 1954 harvest, and about one-fourth more than average production in the 1947-51 period.

The largest increases are in Indonesia and the Philippine Islands, while smaller increases, primarily in flue-cured tobacco are forecast for Thailand, Taiwan and Pakistan. Harvest in Indonesia is forecast at 15.7 percent above 1954. Although production of cigar types is expected to be higher than in any year since World War II, the estimated harvest of cigar leaf for 1955 is just a little over one-half of the prewar output. Flue-cured production in Indonesia is expected to be 4.8 million pounds higher in 1955 than in 1954. In the Philippines efforts to stimulate production of flue-cured tobacco by price incentives are expected to result in a harvest considerably above that in 1954. An increase is also forecast for dark air-cured.

In India the forecast of flue-cured tobacco production indicates a decline of 11 million pounds, as compared to 1954, in spite of a slight increase in acreage. Tobacco production in Indochina will probably be lower as a result of the internal situation there.

Oceania

Leaf tobacco for harvest in 1955 in Oceania is estimated at 12.5 million pounds, just 3 percent below the 1954 harvest. A slight decline in production (almost all flue-cured) is expected in both Australia and New Zealand, in spite of efforts in Australia to encourage production.

FORECAST OF PRODUCTION BY KINDFlue-cured

Preliminary estimates of flue-cured tobacco production for harvest in the first half of calendar year 1955 indicate a slight increase as compared to 1954. Production is forecast at 448.8 million pounds, less than 1 percent above last year's harvest, but 61 percent above the 1947-51 average and more than 5 times as great as the 1935-39 average output in the same countries.

Decreases of 10.5 million pounds in Southern Rhodesia and 11 million pounds in India are reported in spite of small increases in planted acreages in the two countries. Unfavorable weather in the early part of the growing season reduced the prospects in Southern Rhodesia. Actual output may be somewhat higher than estimated in India as well as in Southern Rhodesia if weather conditions improve.



LEAF TOBACCO: Estimated acreage, yield and production of specified countries harvested in the first half of calendar year 1955, with comparisons - farm sales weight 1/

Continent and Country	Acreage Harvested				Yield per Acre				Production			
	Average		Average		Average		Average		Average		Average	
	1935-39	1947-51	1954	1955 2/	1935-39	1947-51	1954	1955 2/	1935-39	1947-51	1954	1955 2/
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	acres	acres	acres	acres	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
<b>NORTH AMERICA:</b>												
Costa Rica	3/	4	3	3	3/	700	730	730	3/	2,522	2,110	2,110
El Salvador	1/	3	3	4	4/	467	408	477	4/	1,123	1,058	1,832
Guatemala	5	7	7	7	390	567	510	593	1,892	4,065	3,449	4,184
Honduras	7	11	14	14	606	684	432	432	4/	7,915	6,180	6,180
Mexico	51	90	88	89	750	882	882	904	38,200	79,425	77,602	80,468
Nicaragua	1	2	3	3	900	775	850	850	800	1,150	2,850	2,850
Republic of Panama	3/	2	2	2	3/	450	450	450	3/	720	720	900
<b>CARIBBEAN:</b>												
Cuba	108	132	154	155	429	550	593	590	48,092	72,751	91,100	91,300
Dominican Republic	25	45	47	52	985	1,050	883	971	24,625	47,178	41,525	50,500
Haiti	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	370	380	375	3/	2,219	2,000	2,000
Jamaica	3/	6	2	2	3/	784	843	839	29,393	26,003	34,140	32,037
Puerto Rico	44	33	40	37	673	784	843	839	29,393	26,003	34,140	32,037
Total for Countries Shown	242	335	363	368	-	-	-	-	148,252	252,571	263,512	275,111
<b>SOUTH AMERICA:</b>												
Argentina	29	67	78	76	965	926	848	855	27,983	61,140	66,425	64,760
Bolivia	3	3	3	3	700	700	676	700	2,500	2,100	2,126	2,100
Brazil	250	337	433	435	811	692	685	639	202,703	233,120	296,018	277,780
Chile	9	9	8	8	1,846	1,670	1,707	1,700	16,618	14,719	13,161	13,270
Colombia	37	47	69	69	803	958	853	853	31,697	45,027	58,863	58,700
Paraguay	22	16	15	16	808	1,150	743	850	17,792	18,438	11,023	13,500
Uruguay	1	1	1	1	860	967	1,129	1,125	1,254	957	837	835
Venezuela	10	8	17	14	825	626	882	830	7,760	6,224	14,981	11,629
Total for Countries Shown	361	488	624	622	-	-	-	-	308,247	381,725	463,444	442,574



<b>AFRICA:</b>														
Kenya	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Nyasaland	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/
Tanganyika	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Uganda	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/
Madagascar	19	12	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Mauritius	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Mozambique	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/
Nigeria	56	58	69	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65
Northern Rhodesia	4	14	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Southern Rhodesia	50	136	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175
Union of South Africa	47	93	70	74	74	74	74	74	74	74	74	74	74	74
Total for Countries Shown	182	325	364	364	364	364	364	364	364	364	364	364	364	364
<b>ASIA:</b>														
Burma	108	121	136	132	132	132	132	132	132	132	132	132	132	132
Ceylon	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/
Pakistan	2/	355	141	192	192	192	192	192	192	192	192	192	192	192
India	5/	917	812	890	886	886	886	886	886	886	886	886	886	886
Indochina	4/	44	25	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45
Indonesia	449	180	358	358	358	358	358	358	358	358	358	358	358	358
Republic of Philippines	176	100	92	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
Taiwan	4	15	14	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Thailand	53	83	107	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
Total for Countries Shown	2,120	1,488	1,847	1,879	1,879	1,879	1,879	1,879	1,879	1,879	1,879	1,879	1,879	1,879
<b>OCEANIA:</b>														
Australia	10	5	8	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
New Zealand	2	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Total for Countries Shown	12	9	11	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
TOTAL FOR ALL COUNTRIES SHOWN	2,917	2,645	3,209	3,245	3,245	3,245	3,245	3,245	3,245	3,245	3,245	3,245	3,245	3,245

1/ Farm sales weight is about 10 percent above the average dry weight, which is normally reported in export trade statistics. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Not available. 4/ Less than a 5-year average. 5/ Recently methods of estimating acreage and production have changed in an effort to improve data; therefore, data for 1935-39 are not comparable with later information.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Official estimates of foreign countries, reports from Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad, results of office research, and other information.

Several countries including Brazil, Indochina, Thailand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Taiwan, and Argentina expect a larger flue-cured harvest in 1955 than in 1954.

LEAF TOBACCO: Estimated production by kind harvested in the first half of calendar year 1955; with comparisons -- farm sales weight 1/

Kinds	1935-39	1947-51	1954	1955 2/
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
Flue-cured	84,310:	278,662:	447,905:	448,777
Burley	409:	9,007:	13,168:	13,965
Other light air-cured	23,690:	24,342:	18,004:	19,146
Dark air-cured	1,793,187:	1,204,391:	1,366,699:	1,361,710
Light sun-cured	130,384:	135,565:	144,788:	147,685
Dark sun-cured	77,164:	104,659:	112,705:	112,797
Fire-cured	18,541:	29,775:	29,764:	27,787
Oriental	1,455:	2,746:	1,167:	1,275
Total	2,129,140:	1,789,149:	2,134,200:	2,133,142

1/ Farm sales weight is about 10 percent above the dry weight normally reported in manufacturing and export statistics.

2/ Preliminary.

### Burley

The estimated production of Burley tobacco for harvest in the first half of 1955 is almost 14 million pounds. This is an increase of 800,000 pounds as compared to the 1954 crop, and is 55 percent above the 1947-51 average. Most of the increase is in Brazil and the Central American countries; while Venezuela expects a smaller crop than in 1954.

### Other Light Air-cured

The production of other light air-cured tobacco, which includes all light air-cured except Burley, is forecast at 19.1 million pounds for the first half of 1955. This is 6 percent above the 1954 harvest but is one-fifth below the 1947-51 level. A large amount of tobacco in Brazil previously classed as light air-cured is now included with dark air-cured leaf.

Production of light air-cured tobacco is increasing in Nigeria for use in the manufacture of cigarettes.

### Dark Air-cured

Dark air-cured leaf for harvest in the first half of calendar year 1955 is estimated at 1,362 million pounds. This is a slight decrease as compared to 1954, but is 13 percent higher than the 1947-51 level.

The drop of 48 million pounds forecast for Bahia cigar leaf in Brazil as compared to the 1954 harvest was partially offset by increases in Indonesia and the Dominican Republic as well as in the other air-cured tobacco for cigarettes in Brazil.

#### Light Sun-cured

The estimated output of light sun-cured tobacco in the first 6 months of 1955 is 147.7 million pounds, 2 percent above 1954 production and almost 9 percent above the 1947-51 level. Indian Natu tobacco which was previously included with dark sun-cured tobacco is now classed as light sun-cured.

Increases in production are expected in Mexico and in Paraguay where drought and pests reduced the 1954 crop.

#### Dark Sun-cured

Production of dark sun-cured tobacco for harvest in the first half of 1955 is forecast at 112.8 million pounds. This is about the same as 1954 production and is almost 8 percent above the 1947-51 average.

#### Fire-cured

Fire-cured tobacco for harvest in the first 6 months of the calendar year is forecast at 27.8 million pounds, 6.6 percent below the level of 1954 and the 1947-51 period. In Nyasaland, where more than three-fourths of the fire-cured tobacco for harvest in the first half of the year is grown, the number of growers registered to produce fire-cured tobacco is one-fifth below the number in 1954 in an effort to restrict production to more adapted areas and improve quality.

#### Oriental (Turkish) and Semi-Oriental

The forecast for oriental tobacco for harvest in the first half of 1955, most of which is grown in the southern part of Africa, is placed at 1,275,000 pounds. This is slightly above the 1954 harvest but is below the 1935-39 level and is less than half the output in the 1947-51 period.

#### U. S. TOBACCO EXPORTS IN JANUARY 1955

United States exports of unmanufactured tobacco in January 1955 totaled 30.9 million pounds valued at \$21.1 million, about a 2 percent increase over January, 1954 exports totaling 30.4 million pounds valued at \$21.7 million. There were decreases in exports of flue-cured tobacco, One-Sucker, Cigar Wrapper and Cigar Binder. There were no exports of Cigar Filler. Exports of most other types increased.

(See table on following page)



## Exports of U. S. Unmanufactured Tobacco January, 1955 with Comparisons

(Export Weight)

Type	January		Percent Change	January		Percent Change
	1954	1955		1954	1955	
	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000	
	pounds	pounds		dollars	dollars	
Flue-cured.....	26,520	24,955	- 5.9	19,431	17,231	- 11.3
Burley.....	1,096	2,774	+153.1	557	1,818	+ 226.4
Dark-fired Ky.-Tenn.....	977	1,116	+ 14.2	535	580	+ 8.4
Virginia Fired-cured.....	143	145	+ 1.4	106	98	- 7.5
Maryland.....	414	514	+ 24.2	234	427	+ 82.5
Green River.....	239	408	+ 70.7	125	209	+ 67.2
One Sucker.....	41	11	- 73.2	33	9	- 72.7
Cigar Wrapper.....	290	233	- 19.7	311	273	- 12.2
Cigar Binder.....	149	110	- 26.2	155	84	- 45.8
Cigar Filler.....	29	-	0	7	-	0
Other.....	491	660	+ 34.4	225	363	+ 61.3
Total.....	30,389	30,926	+ 1.8	21,719	21,092	- 2.9

Compiled in the Foreign Agricultural Service from records of the Bureau of the Census.

(Continued on opposite page)

# USDA RECEIVES REPORT ON THAILAND MARKET FOR U. S. SEEDS

The seed import requirements of Thailand are limited to vegetable and flower seeds, according to W. H. Youngman, Seed Marketing Specialists of the Foreign Agricultural Service who is making a study of the potential seed markets of the Far East. Thailand is importing from the United States limited quantities of seeds at present and would import more if it were not for the difficulty of keeping them viable during the long voyage through tropical temperatures and humidity.

Thailand is a tropical land, with favorable growing conditions for most of the common vegetables which are in constant demand in the larger cities. Bangkok has a population in excess of one million. The cool season is favorable to the production of cabbage, cauliflower and other members of the cabbage family. Tomatoes are widely grown although they are not productive during the rainy season.

More than 30 kinds of vegetables were in the Bangkok markets during Mr. Youngman's visit. Grasses and legume seeds are not to be found in the seed stores of Thailand, largely because the pasture lands have not been developed and are communal in use. Because of the lack of fencing, no one is interested in developing productive grazing lands. However, this problem is under study and research has been started which may provide an answer to this need.

#### U.S. TOBACCO EXPORTS--(Continued from preceding page)

Exports of tobacco products, valued at \$4.5 million were about 10 percent lower in January 1955 than in the same month last year. Exports of all products decreased in January 1955 with the exception of smoking tobacco in bulk.

#### Exports of U. S. Tobacco Products, January 1955, with Comparisons

Class of Products	January 1954	January 1955	Percent Change
Cigars and Cheroots (1,000 pieces)	807	385	-52.3
Cigarettes (million pieces)	1,274	1,109	-13.0
Chewing Tobacco Snuff (1,000 pounds)	91	79	-13.2
Smoking Tobacco in Packages (1,000 pounds)	40	33	-17.5
Smoking Tobacco in Bulk (1,000 pounds)	51	278	+445.1
Declared Value (million dollars)	5.0	4.5	-10.0

Compiled in the Foreign Agricultural Service from records of the Bureau of the Census.

#### CALCUTTA FIRM HAS LICENSE FOR DOLLAR IMPORTS OF CONDENSED MILK

The Foreign Agricultural Service has been advised that the Australian Agency, a Calcutta, India firm, has been granted a license to import condensed milk products from dollar areas. The firm wishes to have exporters in dollar areas cable quotations on a c.i.f. Calcutta basis for all types of condensed preserved milk, including skimmed milk containing 18 percent butterfat. Bids should be sent to the firm's address at 48 Free School Street, Calcutta, India.

WORLD BUTTER AND CHEESE PRICES

DAIRY PRODUCTS: Current Wholesale prices at specified markets, with comparisons

(In U. S. Cents Per Pound)

Country, market and description	Butter				Cheese			
	Date	Quotations			Date	Quotations		
	1955	Price	Month	Year	1955	Price	Month	Year
			earlier	earlier			earlier	earlier
<u>United Kingdom</u> (London)								
New Zealand Finest Grade	:Feb.24:	42.6:	43.7 :	45.4 :	- :	- :	- :	- :
New Zealand Finest White	: - :	- :	- :	- :	:Feb.24:	18.9:	20.0 :	27.3 :
<u>Australia</u> (Sydney)								
Choicest butter	:Feb.26:	41.4:	41.4 :	41.4 :	- :	- :	- :	- :
Choicest Cheddar	: - :	- :	- :	- :	:Feb.26:	25.4:	25.4 :	25.4 :
<u>Irish Republic</u> (Dublin)								
Creamery butter (bulk)	:Feb.28:	48.7:	48.8 :	54.9 :	- :	- :	- :	- :
Cheese	:Feb.28:	30.8:	30.8 :	30.8 :	- :	- :	- :	- :
<u>Denmark</u> (Copenhagen)	:Feb.24:	43.7:	43.7 :	44.7 :	- :	- :	- :	- :
<u>France</u> (Paris)								
Charentes Creamery butter	:Feb.23:	82.9:	82.9 :	94.6 :	- :	- :	- :	- :
<u>Germany</u> (Kempten)								
Markenbutter	:Feb.23:	64.9:	64.3 :	60.6 :	- :	- :	- :	- :
<u>United States</u>								
92-score creamery (N. Y.)	:Feb.25:	58.0:	58.2 :	65.7 :	- :	- :	- :	- :
Cheddar (Wisconsin)	:Feb.25:	31.8:	31.8 :	35.0 :	- :	- :	- :	- :
<u>Netherlands</u> (Leeuwarden)								
Creamery butter	:Feb.26:	50.4:	50.8 :	46.1 :	- :	- :	- :	- :
Full cream Gouda	:Feb.18:	24.9:	27.6 :	24.7 :	- :	- :	- :	- :
Edam 40 percent	:Feb.18:	22.8:	25.3 :	22.2 :	- :	- :	- :	- :
<u>Belgium</u> (Hasselt)	:Feb.24:	92.5:	86.0 :	75.6 :	- :	- :	- :	- :
<u>Canada</u> (Montreal)								
1st grade creamery	:Feb.19:	63.2:	63.2 :	63.2 :	- :	- :	- :	- :
Ontario white	:Feb.19:	30.9:	30.9 :	32.1 :	- :	- :	- :	- :

Sources: Intelligence Bulletin, The Commonwealth Economic Committee; U. S. Consular Reports; and The Dairy Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A.

#### SWEDEN'S MEAT IMPORTS AT RECORD HIGH LEVELS

Imports of meat by Sweden last year established a new high record and are expected to continue large again this year, according to Elmer A. Reese, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Stockholm.



Since 1938 Sweden's trade in meat has changed from a net export to a net import basis. Net imports of meat in 1954, including the carcass equivalent of the live hogs exported, was nearly 51 million pounds, the greatest since 1950. Meat production in Sweden is expected to increase very little in 1955.

Sweden: Foreign Trade in Meat 1/ by Years  
1938 and 1948-54

Year	Imports	Exports <u>2/</u>	Net Imports
	<u>1,000 lbs.</u>	<u>1,000 lbs.</u>	<u>1,000 lbs.</u>
1938.....	13,706	37,998	3/ 24,292
1948.....	19,169	582	18,587
1949.....	34,094	3,097	30,997
1950.....	55,203	3,519	51,684
1951.....	37,652	7,282	30,370
1952.....	9,037	3,038	5,999
1953.....	35,498	25,886	9,612
1954.....	69,370	18,710	50,660

1/ Excludes processed and canned meat.

2/ Includes dressed weight of live hogs exported.

3/ Net exports.

Although meat and meat products, with some insignificant exceptions, are not on the dollar free list or the transit dollar list, the Swedish authorities do not object to imports from the United States. The best opportunities are for United States exports of the lower grades of beef and horsemeat, but there are also trade opportunities in meat offal and canned meat. About one-third of the meat in Sweden is consumed in the form of sausage and other processed meats. Therefore, import requirements for meat and offals suitable for the processing industry are relatively large.

During 1954, Denmark, Uruguay and Ireland were the largest suppliers of meat products for Sweden. Exports from the United States were limited to horsemeat, meat offals and a very small amount of canned meat. Exports of pork were principally to the United Kingdom under its long-time purchase agreement with Sweden and live pigs were exported to West Germany. Sweden's exports of beef and veal were small and were principally to the Netherlands and Italy.

#### COTTON PRODUCTION INCREASES IN IRAQ

Cotton production in Iraq during August-July 1954-55 is estimated at 38,000 bales (500 pounds gross) as compared with the unusually low crops of the 2 prior years, 20,000 bales in 1953-54 and 15,000 in 1952-53, according to Elwyn F. Chase, American Embassy, Baghdad. Production in earlier years had been at the current level, 37,000 bales in 1951-52 and 38,000 in 1950-51. Unusually heavy insect infestation was the principal cause of the low production in 1952-53 and 1953-54, but extensive spraying operations by the Government resulted in more adequate control for the 1954-55 crop. The quality of the 1954 crop was higher than in 1953 and the yield was higher because of less insect infestation.

Approximately 30,000 bales from the 1954-55 crop are expected to be purchased by the Iraq Spinning and Weaving Company, which is the only large cotton textile manufacturer in the country. Construction of a new spinning and weaving factory at Mosul, and another textile mill in Basra, are under consideration by the Development Board.

Iraq imported approximately 1,000 bales of cotton in the calendar year 1953, mostly from India. Exports in the same period were 6,000 bales, which moved principally to the United Kingdom (4,500 bales), West Germany (500 bales), and France (450 bales). Iraq's annual requirements for textiles are estimated at 52 million square meters of cloth, equivalent to around 35,000 bales of cotton.

#### IRAN'S COTTON CROP EXPECTED TO DECREASE IN 1954-55

The 1954-55 cotton crop in Iran is estimated at 207,000 bales (500 pounds gross) decreasing 10 percent from the record crop of 230,000 bales in 1953-54, according to H. C. Lint, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Tehran. Prospects for the 1955-56 crop are less favorable at present, however, as less high grade cottonseed is available for planting this year than in 1954, and threatened shortages of irrigation water for the summer of 1955 may reduce the crop. No official production statistics for Iranian cotton are available, hence production is estimated from official export figures and estimated indigenous consumption.

Cotton mill consumption in Iran is estimated at about 60,000 bales during 1954-55 (year ended August 21) as compared with 57,000 bales consumed in 1953-54. Construction of new mills may increase the 1955-56 consumption to about 64,000 bales. Household consumption of cotton for manufacture of mattresses, comforters, rugs, bags, and hand-made cloth is estimated at about 14,000 bales per year. Household industries in the village absorb mostly the old native types of cotton. About 80 percent of the cotton grown in Iran is American type, although much of it has been crossed and has lost its identity. Consumption of cotton and textiles is roughly approximate to cotton production, since most of the cotton exported is essentially an exchange for yard goods.

Iran's cotton exports in 1953-54 (year ended August 21) were reported at 160,000 bales, an increase of 37 percent over the 117,000 bales exported in 1952-53. Principal destinations of Iranian cotton for 1953-54, with 1952-53 figures in parentheses were: Japan 56,000 bales (30,000); Western Germany 33,000 (43,000); France 24,000 (600); U. S. S. R. 12,000 (6,000); Italy 10,000 (5,000); the United Kingdom 9,000 (1,000); and Spain 4,000 (11,000). Exports between August 22 and December 21, 1954 totaled 59,000 bales.

Iran's cotton stocks on August 1, 1954, were estimated at about 12,000 bales, up slightly from the 10,000 bales held a year earlier. Since Iran imports no cotton, the stocks are entirely of domestic production.



Much of Iran's cotton is exported on a barter basis to Japan and Germany. Prices in rials per kilo have not changed much since one year ago, but the official value of the rial has gone up from 90.0 rials per U.S. dollar which was effective one year ago, to the present rate of 75.0 rials per dollar. Current cotton prices as quoted by the Bank Melli Iran, and converted at 75.0 rials per dollar are as follows:

<u>Variety</u>	<u>Rials per kilo</u>	<u>Equivalent U. S. cents per pound</u>
Filestani	57.5	34.78
Cokers	59.0	35.68
American	50.5	30.54
Local	43.5	26.31

#### REVIEW OF THE 1954 BARLEY AND OATS PRODUCTION

The 1954 world production of barley and oats is still estimated at about 137 million short tons, based on the latest information available to the Foreign Agricultural Service. This third estimate of the world total for the two grains shows very little change from the previous estimate published in Foreign Crops and Markets January 17, 1955. This would be one of the largest outturns of record for these grains. The current estimate is 2 percent larger than the combined total for these grains in 1953 and 19 percent above the 1945-49 average.

World production of barley and oats is now about evenly divided on a tonnage basis, while the prewar average shows a larger proportion of oats. Barley production is estimated at 2,815 million bushels. This would be an all-time world record and though only slightly above the 1953 crop, is about 30 percent above the small 1945-49 average. The world crop of oats is estimated at 4,325 million bushels. This is well above the 1953 harvest but slightly below the prewar average.

North America's barley crop is estimated at 553 million bushels, the largest outturn of any recent year. An increase of 8 percent over the 1953 harvest is due to a sharp increase in the United States crop, which offset the sharp decline in Canada's outturn. Both acreage and yields were below those of 1953 in Canada, while the reverse was true in the United States. The crop of 370 million bushels in the latter country was the second largest of record, having been exceeded only in 1942. Acreage was well above average and yields were the highest of record. Acreage increases were most marked in the corn belt and winter wheat area, where this grain partly replaced allotment crops.

(Tables on following pages)



BARLEY: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1952-54 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/			Yield per acre 3/			Production		
	Average			Average			Average		
	1935-39	1945-49	1952	1935-39	1945-49	1952	1935-39	1945-49	1952
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>									
Canada .....	4,291	6,717	8,477	20.7	21.5	29.4	88,882	144,688	291,379
Mexico .....	374	457	571	10.6	13.2	13.0	3,960	6,032	7,560
United States .....	10,817	10,713	8,244	22.1	25.5	28.2	238,622	273,306	226,014
Estimated total 5/ .....	15,480	17,890	17,290	-	-	-	331,000	424,000	525,000
<b>EUROPE</b>									
Austria .....	401	293	371	32.6	24.3	40.3	13,087	7,127	12,500
Belgium 6/ .....	74	198	222	48.2	47.4	58.6	3,570	9,388	12,500
Denmark .....	946	1,079	1,401	55.9	59.6	65.2	52,881	64,345	97,830
Finland .....	280	346	380	28.2	24.6	34.1	7,900	8,500	10,800
France .....	1,897	2,019	2,656	27.9	26.0	29.9	53,004	52,500	79,420
Western Germany .....	2,005	1,288	1,747	39.4	34.0	46.2	79,000	43,740	80,710
Greece .....	525	453	531	17.8	16.2	18.5	9,365	7,359	9,800
Ireland .....	118	147	225	45.9	45.8	55.9	5,413	6,739	11,620
Italy .....	475	603	626	20.9	15.7	23.3	9,950	9,467	12,250
Netherlands .....	107	139	172	55.5	51.4	64.0	5,934	7,147	11,467
Norway .....	143	99	158	38.2	40.5	47.3	5,467	4,014	6,790
Portugal .....	320	322	387	12.8	11.9	14.0	4,100	3,835	5,500
Spain .....	4,549	3,979	3,964	21.3	21.0	25.9	97,059	83,528	102,420
Sweden .....	252	226	377	39.5	36.5	40.1	9,951	8,252	15,100
Switzerland .....	13	66	59	33.1	41.6	47.8	430	2,745	2,820
United Kingdom .....	934	2,120	2,281	39.2	43.3	47.8	36,596	91,895	108,920
Yugoslavia .....	1,043	-	-	18.0	-	-	18,800	-	-
Estimated total 5/ .....	14,100	14,370	16,560	-	-	-	413,000	428,000	597,000
<b>Other Europe, estimated total 9/ .....</b>									
Other Europe, estimated total 9/ .....	9,210	7,830	8,420	-	-	-	253,000	172,000	208,000
<b>All Europe, estimated total 5/ .....</b>	<b>23,310</b>	<b>22,200</b>	<b>24,980</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>666,000</b>	<b>600,000</b>	<b>805,000</b>
<b>U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) .....</b>	<b>26,600</b>	<b>19,800</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>425,000</b>	<b>272,000</b>	<b>-</b>

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OATS: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1952-54 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/			Yield per acre 3/						Production		
	Average			Average						Average		
	1935-39	1945-49	1953	1954 4/	1935-39	1945-49	1952	1953	1954 4/	1935-39	1945-49	1952
	acres	acres	acres	acres	acres	acres	acres	acres	acres	bushels	bushels	bushels
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>												
Canada 5/	13,246	12,021	9,830	10,161	25.5	28.4	42.2	41.4	30.2	338,071	341,612	466,805
Mexico	29	108	203	213	16.0	19.9	17.3	16.4	19.7	465	2,152	3,520
United States	35,761	40,184	38,422	39,217	29.2	34.3	32.8	30.8	35.6	1,045,329	1,376,527	1,209,458
Estimated total 6/	49,040	52,310	49,690	49,260	52,520	-	-	-	-	1,384,000	1,720,000	1,730,000
<b>EUROPE</b>												
Austria	686	534	545	544	519	32.6	50.1	52.9	44.7	28,746	17,424	27,300
Belgium 7/	548	518	409	392	376	73.1	78.0	79.6	80.3	40,946	37,888	31,900
Denmark	932	822	601	617	617	82.5	-	94.3	87.9	70,205	67,820	66,140
Finland	1,030	931	1,225	1,240	1,200	43.7	37.9	53.2	50.8	45,000	35,275	58,000
France	8,089	6,110	5,622	5,608	5,280	40.7	36.3	41.1	45.0	329,304	221,821	231,130
Western Germany	3,370	2,892	2,748	2,606	2,329	57.7	50.0	67.5	73.2	194,500	144,500	180,270
Greece	350	312	377	368	354	24.3	21.3	31.3	29.5	8,510	6,058	8,040
Ireland	571	819	640	600	560	58.7	64.1	67.5	66.1	39,265	48,040	41,000
Italy	1,062	1,138	1,147	1,128	1,117	35.9	30.5	36.8	33.7	38,150	30,513	35,000
Luxembourg	65	54	51	53	47	44.8	43.9	51.7	49.6	2,910	2,370	2,750
Netherlands	360	378	376	387	353	71.6	89.5	90.6	91.1	25,769	24,125	33,660
Norway	212	198	198	179	173	61.0	56.1	68.9	63.3	12,940	11,137	11,100
Portugal	865	914	750	770	770	12.0	12.8	11.7	11.4	10,350	8,270	9,580
Spain	1,848	1,566	1,483	1,527	1,495	21.3	22.0	20.0	20.0	39,369	34,390	37,700
Sweden	1,641	1,300	1,274	1,182	1,182	53.1	44.6	54.1	51.3	87,198	58,000	56,110
Switzerland	28	86	65	74	66	64.7	79.7	81.9	80.3	1,593	5,568	5,180
United Kingdom	2,430	3,443	2,882	2,840	2,588	57.0	59.5	69.5	65.3	138,628	204,692	194,040
Yugoslavia	893	-	-	-	-	24.5	67.3	69.5	-	21,900	-	-
Estimated total 6/	24,980	22,960	21,380	21,010	19,900	-	-	-	-	1,135,000	980,000	1,047,000
<b>Other Europe, estimated</b>												
total 10/	11,110	9,290	9,580	9,480	9,550	-	-	-	-	477,000	313,000	358,000
Estimated total, all Europe 6/	36,090	32,250	30,960	30,490	29,450	-	-	-	-	1,608,000	1,293,000	1,405,000
U.S.S.R. (Europe & Asia)	49,500	35,100	-	-	-	23.5	20.5	-	-	1,165,000	720,000	-





Production of oats in North America is estimated at 1,811 million bushels. This is somewhat above average and above the harvests of the past 2 years. As was the case with barley, the outturn in Canada was somewhat smaller than the 1953 crop while the United States production was considerably larger. The United States outturn of 1,500 million bushels, the second largest recorded, was the result of near-record acreage and above-average yields. The acreage of 42.2 million acres was 3 million acres larger than in 1953. The bulk of the increase represents acreage diverted from crops placed under allotments. Canada's crop reduction of 100 million bushels was attributed to unfavorable weather conditions, which brought yields 11 bushels per acre below the high 1953 yields. Acreage was larger than in 1953.

European production of barley and oats is smaller than in 1953 mainly because of reduced acreage though yields were also lower in a number of countries. The barley crop is estimated at 830 million bushels. Though less than the large 1953 crop this is sharply above average. Increased barley acreage in recent years, especially in France, the United Kingdom and Denmark accounts for a good part of the increase over the average periods. Production of oats in Europe is estimated at 1,365 million bushels. This is 80 million bushels less than in 1953 and is 240 million below the prewar average. Reduced acreage accounts for the decline, with the current estimate of 29.5 million acres for 1954 contrasted with 36.1 million, the prewar average.

Production of feedgrains in the Soviet Union apparently was reduced by drought. Damage appears to have been especially serious in the important producing Ukraine and Volga basin regions.

In Asia production of barley was about 40 million bushels less than in 1953. The largest reduction was in Turkey, where production was estimated to be 57 million bushels less than the record crop of 1953. Acreage was slightly above the 1953 area but drought cut yields sharply. The reduction in Turkey was partly offset by increases in some other countries, especially Japan. Production of oats in this area is estimated at 109 million bushels; slightly less than in 1953.

In Africa little change from the 1953 production of barley and oats is reported. Barley production of 157 million bushels is about the same as production for the past 2 years, but is sharply above average. Both acreage and yields were above average. Production of oats is estimated at 23 million bushels. This is an average crop and the same as the 1953 outturn.

In South America barley is reported somewhat larger than in 1953 but oats slightly smaller. Barley production is estimated at 81 million bushels compared with 66 million in 1953. Production in Argentina, the principal producer of the area, is now officially estimated at 55 million bushels, compared with 41 million in 1953 and the prewar average of 23 million. Both acreage and yields are well above average.



Oats production for the continent is placed at 77 million bushels. This is slightly below the 80 million bushel crop of a year ago but is well above the prewar average of 62 million bushels. Production in Argentina accounts for the bulk of the total. That country's estimate of 65 million bushels is slightly less than the crop last year but is still well above average.

Production of these crops in Australia is somewhat smaller than the good 1953-54 harvest, though still above average. Barley production is estimated at 27 million bushels compared with the bumper crop of 43 million last year and the 1945-49 average of 17 million bushels. Oats production is estimated at 35 million bushels. The crop last year was 41 million and the 1945-49 average was 33 million bushels.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad.

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PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO U.S. FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE

Issued recently and free upon request from the  
Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department  
of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Marketing of Dairy Products as Recombined Milk in the Caribbean and Central American Areas. Foreign Agriculture Circular FD 1-55.

Recombined Milk -- A Dependable Supply of Fluid Milk Far From the Cow. Foreign Agriculture Report No. 84.

World Castor Bean Production Approximates 1953 Harvest. Foreign Agriculture Circular FFO 4-55.

Cocoa--Bahia Temporao Crop Promising While Reductions Reported in West Africa. Foreign Agriculture Circular FCB 3-55.

Indian Current Raw Jute Supply Barely Adequate for 1954-55 Season. Foreign Agriculture Circular FVF 3-53.

1954 French Dried Prune Crop Smaller. Foreign Agriculture Circular FDF 6-55.

1954 Raisin and Currant Production Lower. Foreign Agriculture Circular FDF 7-55.



SUEZ CANAL NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC IN SOYBEANS  
AT 1953 LEVEL; PEANUTS UP SLIGHTLY

Suez Canal traffic in soybeans, presumably Chinese, in 1954 of 352,000 short tons (about 11,730,000 bushels) was about the same as the 1953 northbound movement, according to information available to the Foreign Agricultural Service. This quantity, however, is only about one-fourth the average quantity of soybean moving through the Canal in the prewar years.

SUEZ CANAL: Northbound movements of vegetable oilseeds,  
1954 with comparisons

(1,000 short tons, gross weight 1/)

Oilseed	:Average : :1933-37 :	1951 :	1952 :	1953 <u>2/</u> :	1954 <u>2/</u> :
Soybeans.....	1,237:	551:	219:	353:	352
Copra.....	786:	1,066:	795:	660:	844
Peanuts.....	999:	218:	207:	229:	250
Cottonseed.....	146:	195:	144:	197:	153
Flaxseed.....	227:	42:	34:	55:	31
Other.....	267:	224:	269:	417:	316
Total oilseeds.....	3,662:	2,296:	1,688:	1,911:	1,946
<u>1/</u> Source data in metric tons. <u>2/</u> Preliminary.					

Source: Compiled from Le Canal de Suez Bulletin, Paris, France.

Peanut shipments, also mainly Chinese, were up 9 percent last year, but the increase in the total northbound movement of all oilseeds in 1954 was due to the substantial traffic in copra. The quantities of cottonseed, flaxseed and "other" oilseeds to pass through the Canal last year were smaller than in 1953.

Vegetable oils also passed northward through the Suez Canal in smaller volume; the total movement of 374,000 tons last year representing a decrease of 28 percent from 1953. While the 1954 traffic in vegetable oils was the smallest since 1948, it was one-fifth larger than the 1933-37 average.

PANAMA OPENS FISH OIL  
AND MEAL PLANT

Panama's first fish oil and fish meal plant was formally inaugurated on February 18, 1955, reports the American Embassy, Panama. The plant is located at Puerto Caimito, in the District of Chorrera.

According to the report, the factory will produce and export fish meal for use as fertilizer, chicken and animal feed, and fish oils and fats for the preparation of oils, paints, varnishes, glycerine, and the manufacture of soap and candles.

The plant equipment, with its electric power generating unit, is of American manufacture and was acquired at a total cost of \$250,000. It is installed in a floor area of 1,500 square meters (about 16,000 square feet), and has a processing capacity of approximately 15 tons of fish meal per hour. Although the firm owns a small fishing fleet, the management has announced that the company will buy all quantities of fish offered for sale. When the plant is in full operating capacity (24 hours per day) it will require a total complement of 150 employees. In the packing of the finished products, the company plans to use locally manufactured 100-pound jute bags with a special impermeable lining.

#### GREECE'S OLIVE OIL PRODUCTION BELOW EARLIER FORECAST

The final estimate of Greece's olive oil production from the 1954 olive crop is 120,000 short tons, reports Print Hudson, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Athens. This is slightly below the preliminary estimate and almost one-third less than the large output of 1953. However, it is a better-than-average production for an "off" year. The early forecast of about 127,000 tons reportedly would have been reached but for insect damage during September and October.

It is too early to predict production from the 1955 crop. However, the abundance of blossoms in the southern areas of the country and the vigorous appearance of trees throughout the country together with adequate soil moisture point to a good crop.

In 1954, 17,367 tons of olive oil were exported, the largest annual shipment of the postwar period. Italy and Brazil were the major markets. In 1953 measures restricting olive oil exports were rescinded because average production of oil was greater than domestic requirements. This action also was encouraged by the devaluation of the drachma in April 1953.

Average annual consumption of olive oil in the postwar period has been about 120,000 tons. Based on an average population of 7.8 million, annual per capita consumption in Greece has been 31 pounds, the same as in the period 1930-1939. Total estimated consumption in 1955 is expected to continue at about 120,000 tons.

The Greek government recently announced a policy to attempt the regular export of 20,000 metric tons (22,000 short tons) of olive oil per year, regardless of the level of domestic production. This is a part of the government's program of expanding exports, in order to increase its supply of foreign exchange. Deficits of oil availability will be met by the import of less expensive seed oils, probably from the United States.



Even though there is no apparent scarcity of oil at the present time the government recently announced, with support from the United States Operations Mission to Greece (USOM/G), a call to bid for the purchase of 5,000 tons (5,500 short tons) of cottonseed oil. This import of oil will assist the government in the stabilization of olive oil prices. Furthermore, plans are under way for the Government to purchase, from local domestic oil stocks, limited quantities of olive oil to be used to control prices during the seasonally-low supply period of May to October.

Olive oil prices in the Piraeus market during 1954 have ranged between 14.8 and 18.8 drachma per oka (17.5 and 22.2 cents per pound), depending upon grades and season. Large or small crops do not have their full effect upon prices because of the practice of holding stocks from surplus periods to cover the needs during the deficit periods.

#### U. S. COTTON EXPORTS DOWN IN JANUARY

Exports of cotton from the United States in January amounted to 348,000 bales of 500 pounds gross weight (334,000 running bales), compared with 515,000 bales exported in the previous month. The August-January total of 2,040,000 bales (1,960,000 running bales) is 447,000 bales or 29 percent larger than the 1,593,000 bales exported during a similar period last year. The decrease in January, however, is greater than was generally anticipated earlier.

The unusually large export total of 515,000 bales in December, however, may be attributed in part to the fact that December was the final delivery month for about 480,000 bales authorized before June 30, 1954, by the Foreign Operations Administration for shipment under the 1954 foreign-aid program. The reduced movement of United States cotton in January is not due to loss of export markets to other countries, as evidenced by the world export table on the following page. The major foreign exporting countries (except Mexico and Peru) have exported much less cotton in the first half of the current season than during a similar period a year ago. Most of their 1954-55 crops were still unshipped at the end of January but nearly all of their old-crop stocks had been liquidated before last September.

Prices of United States cotton have generally been on a competitive level with those of foreign growths during the past year and the relationship has not changed significantly in recent months. Mill consumption in the principal cotton importing countries (except Japan) was slightly higher during the first half of the current season than in the first half of 1953-54 but some decrease is anticipated in countries where reductions in stocks of yarns and textiles may occur in coming months.

Cotton export sales are reported by trade sources to have declined during the past 3 months and may be reflected in export movement during the remainder of the current season. Reports from abroad indicate that foreign cotton buyers generally are buying on a hand-to-mouth basis; the reluctance to buy applying to all growths of cotton.



UNITED STATES: Exports of cotton by countries of destination;  
averages 1935-39 and 1945-49; annual 1952 and 1953;  
August-January 1953-54 and 1954-55

(Equivalent bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1					
	Averages				August-January	
	1935-39	1945-49	1952	1953	1953-54	1954-55
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Austria.....	0:1/	36:	47:	42:	28:	9:
Belgium-Luxembourg.....	169:	131:	73:	68:	26:	51:
Czechoslovakia.....	65:	57:	0:	0:	0:	0:
Denmark.....	33:	14:	34:	23:	13:	13:
Finland.....	35:	21:	4:	10:	0:	0:
France.....	662:	575:	507:	475:	201:	293:
Germany.....	511:	340:	241:	389:	138:	232:
Italy.....	442:	489:	272:	269:	131:	154:
Netherlands.....	107:	131:	79:	104:	41:	59:
Norway.....	17:	7:	11:	14:	6:	7:
Poland and Danzig.....	180:	69:	0:	0:	0:	0:
Portugal.....	36:2/	:	1:	0:	0:	0:
Spain.....	108:	69:	77:	167:	90:	51:
Sweden.....	115:	12:	36:	43:	17:	34:
Switzerland.....	11:	26:	28:	24:	17:	32:
United Kingdom.....	1,346:	488:	359:	422:	180:	272:
Yugoslavia.....	17:	47:	86:	40:	21:	31:
Other Europe.....	31:3/	33:	6:	10:	2:	2:
Total Europe.....	3,855:	2,545:	1,861:	2,100:	911:	1,240:
Australia.....	9:	7:	11:	45:	14:	29:
Canada.....	301:	275:	284:	237:	97:	166:
Chile.....	9:	20:	1:	27:	7:	7:
China.....	117:	401:	0:	0:	0:	0:
Colombia.....	20:	24:	35:	7:	1:	1:
Cuba.....	11:	16:	12:	20:	7:	15:
French Indochina.....	22:	6:	18:	16:	8:	0:
Formosa.....	4/	1:	107:	110:	53:	48:
India.....	52:	86:	45:	161:	23:	54:
Indonesia.....	2/	5:	17:	22:	10:	15:
Israel.....	4/	5:	14:	12:	5:	8:
Japan.....	1,142:	585:	691:	1,005:	390:	356:
Korea, Republic of.....	4/	5/	48:	96:	47:	74:
Philippines, Rep. of.....	2:	4:	16:	8:	3:	3:
Other countries.....	19:6/	37:	28:7/	48:	17:	24:
Total.....	5,589:	4,065:	3,181:	3,914:	1,593:	2,040:

1/ 4-year average. 2/ Less than 500 bales. 3/ Includes Greece 21. 4/ If any, included in "Other countries". 5/ 3-year average. 6/ Includes Hong Kong 35.  
7/ Includes Ethiopia 11, French Morocco 9, and Hong Kong 9.

COTTON: Principal exporting countries, 1954-55  
August through month shown in heading

(Thousand bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Brazil Dec.	Egypt Jan.	Mexico Nov.	Pakistan Dec.	Peru Jan.	Sudan Dec.	Turkey Jan.
Belgium.....	20	11	9	0	22	2	8
Czechoslovakia..	0	22	0	0	0	0	7
France.....	20	72	2	10	11	8	2
Germany.....	93	46	7	2	19	7	21
Italy.....	37	48	0	3	2	14	6
Netherlands....	32	9	5	0	6	0	0
Poland.....	4	23	0	0	0	1	2
Spain.....	43	26	3	0	0	0	1
Sweden.....	8	2	0	2	1	1	0
Switzerland....	1	24	1	0	10	0	2
United Kingdom..	66	33	3	13	24	40	0
Yugoslavia.....	10	5	0	0	0	0	8
U.S.S.R.....	0	40	0	0	0	0	0
Australia.....	1	1	0	3	0	0	0
Canada.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chile.....	0	0	0	0	31	0	0
China.....	28	16	0	21	0	0	0
Cuba.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Formosa.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hong Kong.....	16	0	0	29	0	0	0
India.....	0	68	0	0	5	12	0
Japan.....	96	33	0	45	9	0	0
Korea.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
United States..	0	13 1/2	496	4	19	1	0
Other countries:	21	51	98	8	13	2	16
Total.....	497	543	624	140	172	88	73
Comparable period 1953-54:	531	679	449	398	167	222	203

1/ Mostly for transshipment to Europe.

Compiled in the Cotton Division from official records.

# SWITZERLAND INCREASES COTTON IMPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES

Cotton imports into Switzerland in the first 6 months (August-January) of the 1954-55 marketing year amounted to 112,000 bales (500 pounds gross), or practically the same as the 110,000 bales imported in the similar period of 1953-54, but the United States share of these imports increased considerably, according to O. B. Mossman, American Consulate General, Bern. Imports from the United States in the current period were 38,000 bales or 34 percent of the total, as compared with 19,000 bales or 17 percent of the total in the similar period of the previous year.

SWITZERLAND: Imports of cotton from major countries of origin;  
averages 1945-49; annual 1951-53;  
August-January 1953-54 and 1954-55

Country of origin	(Equivalent bales of 500 pounds gross)					
	Year beginning August 1				August-January	
	Average 1945-49	1951	1952	1953	1953-54	1954-55
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan..1/	0.9	4.9	1.3	1.2	0.8	0.2
Belgian Congo.....	4.5	1.7	.6	1.6	.8	1.5
Brazil.....	17.6	.3	.5	8.5	4.8	5.7
Egypt.....	31.2	29.3	67.7	68.0	42.0	20.0
India and Pakistan...	5.4	2.3	1.9	1.4	.3	.7
Mexico.....	7.0	10.0	13.8	21.7	19.6	21.4
Paraguay.....	6.1	.2	1.3	1.5	1.5	.5
Peru.....	29.5	16.8	20.1	25.4	17.1	19.6
Syria.....1/	.5	1.4	8.7	1.3	.8	.8
United States.....	29.9	88.3	35.0	28.8	18.5	38.3
Other countries.....	5.3	2.4	3.0	9.1	3.5	2.9
Total.....	137.9	157.6	153.9	168.5	109.7	111.6
1/ 3-year average.						

Source: Statistique Mensuelle du Commerce Exterieur and official reports.

Cotton consumption by Swiss spinning mills totaled 163,000 bales during the marketing year 1953-54, as compared with 147,000 bales consumed in 1952-53, and the post-war record consumption of 168,000 bales in 1950-51. Consumption during August-January 1954-55 amounted to 88,000 bales, 33 percent of which was Egyptian cotton, 23 percent United States cotton, 17 percent Mexican, and 13 percent Peruvian.

Production of 31 million kilograms (68.3 million pounds) of cotton yarn in the calendar year 1954 was 16 percent higher than in 1953, and that of 167 million running meters (182.6 million linear yards) of cotton fabrics was 15 percent higher.



The Swiss cotton textile industry must export approximately 50 percent of its total output in order to maintain the current volume of production. Some increase in prices of raw cotton in 1954, and increased competition from lower priced fabrics produced in other countries have resulted in decisions by weavers of both fine and coarse fabrics not to increase production beyond the 1954 figures.

Stocks of cotton in Switzerland on January 31, 1955, amounted to 119,000 bales of which 27,000 or 23 percent were of United States growth, or an approximate 8-month supply. Switzerland traditionally maintains higher stocks than coastal countries because of transportation uncertainties. Stocks held on August 1, 1954, were approximately 100,000 bales, of which 13,000 were of United States growth, 46,000 were Egyptian, 13,000 Peruvian, and 9,000 Mexican.

#### SPAIN'S OLIVE OIL PRODUCTION LARGER THAN EARLY FORECASTS

Spain's olive oil production from the 1954-55 olive crop is now estimated at 286,600 short tons by the National Olive Syndicate, Madrid. While this estimate is considerably larger than forecasts early in the season, it is one-fifth less than the 363,800-ton estimate of oil from the 1953-54 crop and represents the smallest outturn in the last 4 years.

A highly damaging freeze in February 1954, a persistent drought for the greater part of the year, heavy infestation of olive fruit fly and olive thrip were the principal factors responsible for the lower-than-normal "off-year" production. The improved condition of the crop was the result of rains in November, December and January.

The general soaking rains and mild temperatures in the olive oil producing areas during the last 2 months augurs well for an average or above-average outturn in 1955-56. Too, the Ministry of Agriculture's contemplated use this season of insecticides for controlling insect pests throughout the principal olive producing areas will be a contributing factor to increased production.

In view of the smaller-than-normal olive oil production in 1954-55 and stocks as of January 1, 1955, at only 66,000 tons, Spain is confronted with a large edible oil deficit. This deficit will be offset by imports of other edible oils such as cottonseed, soybean and peanut oils for domestic consumption. Contracts already have been made with the United States to purchase 6 million dollars worth of cottonseed oil, approximately 23,150 tons, under U. S. Foreign Operations Administration financing, 1,240 tons of cottonseed oil with free dollars, 4,410 tons of peanut oil, Indian origin, and 5,510 tons of soybean oil recently purchased from the Netherlands. It is anticipated that another 33,070 tons of cottonseed oil will be purchased from the United States. Exports of olive oil from Spain in 1955 may reach 42,990 tons, the quantity earmarked for this purpose.

With an estimated internal domestic consumption of 385,800 tons of edible oils during the 11-month period January 1, 1955 to December 1, 1955, plus estimated exports of 42,990 tons (calendar 1955) totaling 428,790 tons and total availabilities of only 420,120 tons, it is apparent that additional imports of 38,000 to 44,000 tons of edible oil probably will be needed in order for Spain to meet its average annual domestic consumption requirement plus exports plus a minimum stock for one month.

	Edible oil availabilities 1955 (Short tons)
Production, 1954-55 1/	286,600
Stocks, January 1, 1955	66,140
Imports, as listed above	67,380
Total availabilities	420,120
Export estimate	42,990
Total availabilities for domestic consumption to December 1, 1955	377,130

1/ Olive Syndicate, Abastecimientos y Transportes, Seville Consulate and Trade Sources.

Spain's exports of olive oil during calendar 1954 amounted to 34,697 tons, of which 14,441 tons went to the United States.

Export prices for 1954-55 olive oil are the same as last season. For oil packed in drums of 100 kilograms the price is \$55.00 or 24.9 cents per pound. For oil packed in tin cans the price varies with the size of the case and of the containers. For example, for one 6-gallon tin of 20.712 kilograms net content per case, the f.o.b. price per case is \$15.57 or 34.1 cents per pound.

#### CEYLON'S EXPORTS OF COCONUT PRODUCTS DOWN SLIGHTLY IN 1954

Exports of coconut products from Ceylon during 1954 totaled 228,786 long tons, copra equivalent, a decline of about 7 percent from the previous year, reports the American Embassy, Colombo. Coconut oil remained the most important coconut product exported--68,915 tons, followed by desiccated coconut--55,204 tons, copra--46,025 tons, and fresh coconuts--1,834 tons. The total value of all coconut products exported in 1954 was 214.8 million rupees (U. S. \$44.9 million) compared with 246.6 million rupees (U. S. \$51.9 million) in 1953.

Principal buyers of coconut oil in 1954 were Italy, India, China, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom. India was again the principal buyer of copra followed by Pakistan. Important buyers of desiccated coconut were the United Kingdom, Germany, Australia, Canada, and the Netherlands. The United States purchased 850 tons of desiccated coconut as compared with 300 tons in 1953.



CEYLON: Copra and coconut oil exports by country of destination,  
average 1935-39, annual 1952-54

(Long tons)

Country	Copra				Coconut oil			
	Average 1935-39	1952	1953	1954	Average 1935-39	1952	1953	1954
Greece.....	1,526	-	-	-	120	-	14,884	5,191
Canada.....	-	-	-	-	8,523	2,396	-	-
West Indies.....	-	-	-	-	881	-	-	-
Denmark.....	1,605	-	-	-	35	-	-	-
France.....	354	-	-	-	347	194	-	100
Western Germany.....	1,482	150	-	-	1,200	6,850	7,492	647
Italy.....	6,541	300	-	-	1,724	19,834	17,648	17,001
Netherlands.....	-	200	-	-	-	16,073	26,427	6,186
Sweden.....	-	800	-	-	3,573	1,820	-	2,019
Switzerland.....	-	-	-	-	84	267	134	1,038
United Kingdom.....	420	-	2	-	14,160	28,610	2,787	6,110
Other Europe.....	4,573	1,804	-	-	5,913	1,515	4,074	626
China.....	-	-	-	-	3	-	6,427	10,000
Cyprus.....	-	-	-	-	146	228	22	155
India.....	42,553	14,985	18,628	39,189	10,769	9,073	8,912	11,968
Iraq.....	20	134	134	115	315	1,034	666	403
Pakistan.....	-	22,132	2,200	6,568	-	11,783	780	1,322
Israel.....	-	-	150	-	15	278	7	50
Syria.....	60	-	100	-	164	197	-	38
Other Asia.....	360	226	178	149	2,406	2,105	1,908	3,499
Egypt.....	425	-	-	-	2,433	3,011	150	790
Union of South Africa.....	-	-	-	-	2,597	250	54	162
Other countries.....	8	-	-	4	3,608	1,194	1,196	1,610
Total.....	59,927	40,731	21,390	46,025	59,013	106,712	93,568	68,915
2/ Preliminary, 2/ Less than .5 long ton. 3/ All to Belgium.								

Maritime Embassy, Colombo.

In 1954 there was a sharp decline in the prices of the 3 major coconut products (coconut oil, copra and desiccated coconut) which comprise about 13 percent of the total value of Ceylon's exports. At the beginning of January 1954 copra was Rs. 222/20 per candy (\$186 per long ton), desiccated coconut 53 rupee cents per pound (11.1 U. S. cents) and coconut oil Rs. 1,390 per long ton (13.0 cents per pound). These prices fell off in February, declined in March and continued to fall the rest of the year. The market closed at Rs. 165 (\$138) for copra, 40 rupee cents (8.4 U. S. cents) for desiccated coconut, and Rs. 1,060 for coconut oil (9.9 cents per pound).

In the first 2 months of 1955 the prices for copra ranged between Rs. 165 and Rs. 155 per candy (\$138 - \$130 per long ton); desiccated coconut 40 to 35.5 rupee cents per pound (8.4 to 7.4 U. S. cents) and coconut oil Rs. 1,065 - Rs. 1,020 per long ton (9.9 - 9.5 cents per pound). A further drop occurred on February 25 when the price of coconut oil fell to Rs. 990 (9.2 cents) and copra to Rs. 150 (\$125). The slump in the market was attributed to the continuing uncertainty and lack of buying in European markets.

With the reduction of the export duties on coconut products, effective March 11, 1955, however, the market situation is expected to show some improvement. The new and old export duties, rupees per long ton, are as follows: copra--new 200 (\$41.80), old 260 (\$54.34); coconut oil--new 135 (\$28.22), old 208 (\$43.47); and desiccated coconut--new 95 (\$19.86), old 156 (\$32.60). There is no change in the duty on fresh coconuts.

Although the volume of 1954 exports did not differ greatly from the previous year, there has been a continuation of the steady deterioration in the palms which has been going on over the past 25 years. It is estimated that about 15,000 to 20,000 acres of coconut lands are going out of production annually. Proposals for subsidizing coconut replanting are expected to be placed before the Cabinet by the Minister of Agriculture and Food in the near future.

#### U. S. SESAME IMPORTS LARGEST SINCE 1950

United States imports of sesame seed in 1954 of 8,353 short tons represents an increase of nearly 60 percent from 1953. In comparison to the 1935-39 average, however, sesame imports into the United States in 1954 and previous postwar years have been small.

The bulk of the 1954 imports, the largest since 1950, came from South America. As in previous years, the principal suppliers were Nicaragua and El Salvador. Imports from Nicaragua, substantially up from the year before, were largely responsible for the over-all increase.



UNITED STATES: Sesame seed imports by country  
of origin, average 1935-39, annual 1951-1954

(Short tons)

Country of origin	Average 1935-39	1951	1952	1953 1/	1954 1/
<b>NORTH AMERICA:</b>					
El Salvador.....	16	693	1,418	1,805	1,536
Guatemala.....	4	398	-	350	355
Nicaragua.....	97	2,839	4,394	3,082	5,741
Other.....	141	14	7	28	15
Total.....	258	3,944	5,819	5,265	7,647
<b>ASIA:</b>					
China.....	26,501	716	-	-	-
Hong Kong.....	638	24	3	-	-
India.....	484	455	-	-	-
Turkey.....	16	-	33	-	-
Other.....	1,031	2/ 1,080	36	3	182
Total.....	28,670	2,275	72	3	182
<b>OTHER.....</b>	285	-	28	-	524
Grand total.....	29,213	6,219	5,919	5,268	8,353

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes 1,070 tons from Ceylon.

Compiled from official records of the Department of Commerce.

### L A T E N E W S

The Central Bank of the Philippines Republic announces that importations of evaporated and condensed milk, milk powder and sterilized natural milk in the essential commodity group have been decontrolled. Foreign exchange obtained for these highly essential imports will be non-shiftable and shall not form part of the regular quota allocation of importers.

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The Yugoslav Government has reported 1954 dried prune production at 9,200 short tons. Production in 1953 was officially estimated at 50,000 tons and in 1952 at only 900 tons. Fresh prune production for 1954 is now officially estimated at 450,000 short tons compared with 1,127,000 tons in 1953 and 262,000 tons in 1952. Fresh prune production in Yugoslavia has a tendency to fluctuate greatly--one or two years of small crops usually follow a very large crop. The quantity of prunes dried fluctuates even more sharply, since requirements for other uses of prunes are first met and the balance then dried.





